

Minutes of the Faculty Standards Committee, University Senate, 10/3/2016

In Attendance:

*Jc Beall, Chair, Philosophy

*Sandra Bellini, School of Nursing

*Maria-Luz Fernandez, CAHNR

*Michael Fischl, School of Law

*Elizabeth Jockusch, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

Preston Britner, Human Development & Family Studies

Lauren Jorgensen, Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Sally Reis, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (*Ex Officio* Member)

Sarah Woulfin, Neag School of Education

Jc Beall called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Old Business

The Minutes from the 9/12/2016 meeting were approved unanimously.

Sally Reis noted that the NEASC accreditation site visit went exceedingly well.

Emeritus Faculty Procedures.

At the direction of the SEC, we shall return to this topic (see minutes and agenda from 9/12/2016 FSC meeting). The SEC viewed the request as falling within the purview of FSC.

We discussed forming a subcommittee of FSC to meet with Rajeev Bansal or discussing the issue as the full FSC. We briefly returned to the issues of time at rank (why five years at rank vs. five years at UConn?), rank (why only Professor [and equivalent] and not Associate Professor?), possible other honorific titles, and the workload of the Retirement Committee. What are the relative arguments for making any changes in terms of rank or other titles? No one could articulate a strong concern arguing for five+ years at Full Professor at UConn.

In the end, we decided to request additional information from Rajeev Bansal and the Retirement Committee on the types (and frequency) of concerns raised, then work through the discussion as the FSC rather than appoint a subcommittee.

New Business

Faculty Clock Stoppages and “Early” Tenure Decision Procedures.

Sally Reis brought forward a question, based on some ambiguity in language on a Human Resources FAQ website, about whether an “early” tenure decision, following a clock stoppage, could be “pulled back” after an unfavorable decision at the Provost’s level. It was the understanding of all FSC members that a denial at the Provost’s level would not allow for a re-application the following year.

There was some discussion about how “early” cases may be stopped at Departmental or School/College level, but practices seem to vary.

FSC will, in the near term, review the Human Resources FAQ and recommend language for clarification, so that HR and Provost website information is consistent. Over the longer term, other broader discussions may ensue regarding the larger timing issue and standards across the University, automatic clock stoppages for men as well as women, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

Minutes submitted respectfully by Preston Britner.