

## Minutes

### Faculty Standards Committee of the University Senate

December 9, 2019 (2:00 p.m., Dodd Center 162, Storrs Campus)

The following FSC members were in attendance.

\*Preston Britner, Chair, Human Development & Family Sciences

\*Marysol Asencio, El Instituto

\*Dan Burkey, Engineering

\*Stephen Dyson, Political Science

\*Phillip Gould, Physics

\*Vicki Magley, Psychological Sciences

\*Paula Philbrick, EEB, Waterbury Campus

\*Kathy Segerson, Economics

Cynthia Gerber, Graduate Student

Dalton Hawie, Undergraduate Student Representative

Girish Punj, Marketing

Martina Rosenberg, CETL

John Volin, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs (*ex officio*)

Guests: Radenka Maric, Vice President for Research

Sarah Croucher, Office of the Provost

#### 1) Old Business

The Nov. 4, 2019 Minutes were approved unanimously.

#### 2) New Business

We focused on the potential implications of several initiatives on faculty workload and/or academic freedom.

- a) Entrepreneurship: Radenka Maric and John Volin led a discussion of implications (workload, academic freedom) of PA 19-154. Volin described University efforts regarding hiring and entrepreneurship, as well as progress on an internal report to be completed by the end of December 2019.
- b) Doubling Research: Maric and Volin led a discussion of the “doubling of research” goal espoused by President Katsouleas. They discussed areas of improvement and strategies related to hiring and productivity. They noted that the President was interested in scholarship across the University, not only research expenditures. FSC member raised a number of questions related to hiring: Target of Opportunity (TOPS) hires, cluster hires, Innovation Professors, spousal hires, non-tenure track lines, and making use of a joint portal system across Connecticut. We also discussed research support and

infrastructure needs, graduate fellowships, growing the post doc ranks, regrading collaborative research (and questioning how student productivity was being measured in current metrics), as well as more general metrics to be employed in assessing this initiative.

- c) Academic Analytics: Preston Britner described how a newer version of AA is being utilized by the University. Lloyd Blanchard (OIRE) could not attend the meeting, but he responded via email to our question, What are the current plans for how faculty research productivity (as indexed in AA) will be utilized by the University?  
“Academic Analytics (AA) is provided as a formative and developmental tool to help improve research productivity. Examples of developmental use include department heads and deans using it to benchmark their unit against others in the same field, or to identify which of their highly productive faculty are not being recognized via awards, or to identify grant opportunities linked to discipline or subject. It also allows the user to model department productivity under various faculty recruitment scenarios. It will not be used for summative evaluations of faculty, as we recognize that it does not present a complete picture of productivity.”
- d) Travel: The SEC asked, with the new Concur system (<https://concurproject.uconn.edu>), are there any possible concerns with: faculty having to “self-serve”; have pre-approval; accept or decline “duty of care” alerts; etc.? No FSC members raised any concerns, but the rollout of the system isn’t yet complete, so we can monitor and bring back to topic as needed.

### 3) Announcements

Next PTR Forum (now: alternate years)

- Tentative date: March 26, 2021, Student Union

Non-Tenure Track Promotion and Reappointment Town Halls

- Wednesday, February 12, 2020, Time: 1:00pm-2:30pm, Location: Dodd Auditorium
- Thursday, February 13, 2020 Time: 10:00am-11:30am Location: Dodd Auditorium

Reminder of Future Meetings (Rome Portico)

- Feb. 3, 2020
- Mar. 2, 2020
- Apr. 6, 2020
- May 4, 2020

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.