

Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Agenda - April 6, 2004
Millington 150 - 3:30pm

I. Minutes of the last meeting, March 2, 2004, posted at:

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/minutes/20040302.pdf>

II. Elections

Faculty Affairs Committee Chair
Educational Policy Committee Chair
Committee on Degrees, full term
Educational Policy Committee, 2 year replacement position, Area I
Faculty Hearing Committee, full term and 1 year replacement
Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee, full term, Area II

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/nominationelection/20040406.pdf>

III. Report of the Administrative Officers

A. Report of the Provost (10 minutes)

B. Report of the Vice President for Development (10 minutes)

IV. Old and New Business

A. Educational Policy Committee (15 minutes)

1. EPC motion to revise criteria for GER 2. The link below includes both the proposed criteria and the current criteria:

http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/epc/reports/GER_2_Proposed_Revisions.pdf

2. EPC motion to institute Digital Information Literacy Proficiency (5 minutes)

V. Discussion Item: Faculty Affairs Committee would like to follow up on last month's preliminary discussion about budget and policy matters relating to Faculty Research Assignments. The purpose of the discussion is twofold: 1) to provide input to the Faculty Research Committee regarding such issues as "merit versus years of service" before the FRC holds its annual policy meeting; 2) to provide input to Faculty Assembly representatives who will work with the Provost to identify and plan for the budgetary needs of the program.

During its discussion last week, the Faculty Assembly came up with four main issues to consider, which may be a useful place to begin our discussion. (20 minutes)

1. What is a reasonable relationship between considerations of merit and years of service in determining the award of FRAs? Should junior leaves be considered when giving special consideration to first time requests for FRAs?
2. How much should summer grant stipends be? And should pre-tenure faculty continue to receive additional "points" to assist them with summer grants?
3. What percentage of faculty should be on FRAs each year? What is a reasonable period of time between FRAs for the average active faculty member?
4. How much should be allocated back to departments to replace a faculty member on FRA?

Note: The criteria for awarding FRAs is written as follows under “Criteria and Procedures of the Committee”: “The two main criteria will be a) the clarity and merit of the project, including the likelihood that it will result in a meaningful contribution in its field, and b) the research record of the applicant, including the existence of tangible results from previous research support (both summer grants and semester research assignments). These are the two main criteria, but years of service beyond six shall also be considered.”

VI. Reports of Committees

A. Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies

(10 minutes)

<http://www.wm.edu/as/dean/faculty/documents/honors/Annual%20Report%20-%20March%202004.pdf>
