

Minutes for the Faculty Affairs Committee, January 19, 2021

Members: David Armstrong, Josh Burk (co-chair), Sarah Day (co-chair), Maria Donoghue Velleca (Dean), Catherine Levesque (scribe), Jack Martin, Peter McHenry

The Zoom meeting began at 2:00

1) The minutes for the past two meetings (12/15 and 1/12) and were approved

2) Updates from Maria:

Maria asked about messaging to the campus community on safety concerns

Maria noted that she will continue to meet with NTE faculty on a monthly basis to keep them apprised of the on-going situation with NTE contracts. Some limited (and unexpected) money has become available and will make it possible to issue two NTE contracts.

In addressing the role the Charles Center, Maria asked the group what they thought about removing programs from the Charles Center to Disciplinary Areas (perhaps I, II, III). The consensus was that the FAC should ask faculty representing the three areas and an interdisciplinary program to form a working group that would consider the ramifications of rethinking what the Charles Center does and be able to act as an advisory body. Josh asked that members of the committee submit names.

3) JAMOU policy update

Jack reported that as far as he could ascertain it is the University not SHEV that prescribes that a Department not a Program hires Joint Appointment faculty. He recommends changes to the Faculty Manual that reflects this. He asked Cathy to present these revisions at the next Faculty Assembly for a vote. She agreed.

4) Update on plans for February FAS meeting

Sarah showed the agenda for the February Meeting and mentioned that both this meeting and the one in March are already full.

5) Feedback about re-structuring of the Dean's Office

Jack provided a recap of the points he made about the restructuring in his e-mail (1/12). Maria clarified some points raised. Discussion followed on evaluating "Associate" Deans, the allocation of resources, and the duties for which Vice-Deans would be responsible. Maria laid out her view of a Dean's responsibility, especially her role in hiring faculty.

6) Feedback on implementation of the hiring pilot

Maria noted that the Hiring Pilot was moving forward in the hiring of NTEs this semester.

7) Personnel policies and the Faculty Manual

Jack reiterated his point that the changes to the Faculty Manual were minor and that he recommended adding a new section to the Manual that would address personnel policy. He asked Cathy to include that in the request for a Faculty Assembly vote. She agreed.