

Minutes of the Faculty Affairs Committee, April 13, 2021

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

The meeting was held on Zoom videoconference and began at 2 p.m.

1. Approved minutes from the April 5 FAC meeting.
2. Updates from Maria
 - a. Maria had a good meeting with the Council of Chairs & Program Directors last week.
 - b. Discussed how to talk in public about resignations from Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CDEI).
 - c. Discussed some personnel matters
3. Plans for April and May FAS meetings
 - a. Proposal for a Department of Data Science
 - i. Discussed whether tabling or referring to a committee could be appropriate at April FAS meeting. Maria noted that tabling is only available if another urgent matter comes up.
 - ii. Compared Data Science proposal to the formation of the Department of Applied Science: whether faculty voted then (they did), who made the motion (the motion came from two committees according to May 2, 1995 FAS meeting minutes).
 - b. Planning ahead for May meeting
 - i. Retirement narratives
 - ii. CDEI report
 - iii. Maria asked that we give time to students proposing a data literacy requirement.
 - iv. Plan to vote on edited version of Dean's memo on tenure, promotion, and interim review
4. FAC appointed committees
 - a. Current membership of each committee is not clear.
 - b. Josh assigned an FAC member to each committee. Each of us should contact the chair of assigned committees and figure out who is participating.
5. Discussed issues with students reporting concerns about faculty
6. Dean's memo about promotion to senior lecturer
 - a. Current practice evidently does not include chairs and program directors giving a non-budget rationale as to how an NTE faculty member meets curricular needs better than a TE faculty member.
 - b. Josh suggested revising the Dean's memo to drop that part. Peter noted that requirement is part of the faculty-approved NTE personnel policy, which would need to be revised in addition to the memo.
7. Role of FAC in the re-start of Strategic Planning. Brief discussion that will be continued at the next FAC meeting.

Adjourned around 3:15 p.m.