

Approved February 6, 2008

Executive Council
December 12, 2007
ASB 230

Members Present: Eric Karlin, Susan Eisner, Steve Rice, Maria Vail, Irene Kuchta, Erin Augis, Anita Stellenwerf, Marcia Sexton, Amruth Kumar, Jim Morley

Members Absent: Lisa Cassidy (Absent due to teaching conflict)

1. Tenure decisions

The Board of Trustees Human Resources subcommittee met on December 5, 2007, to review candidates for tenure. Candidates were introduced to the Board at the December 10, 2007, meeting. Dean Chakrin and Provost Barnett were granted tenure. Executive Council members discussed topics including tenure of deans, criteria for administrative tenure, administrative evaluation processes, consideration for tenure at time of hire, and perceived lack of review.

Action Item: Executive Council requests clarification of the process from Provost Barnett and/or a brief explanation from President Mercer.

Suggestion: It was suggested by Executive Council that administrative hires be evaluated after their first year especially if tenure is to be granted after two years.

2. Faculty Assembly panel discussion

President Karlin will provide an introduction to the panel discussion on strengths/weaknesses of the current governance structure before opening it up to Executive Council members. Councilors Eisner and/or Kumar will provide a brief history of the previous governance structure for comparison. Members present participated in a general discussion on faculty caring about governance, faculty identity, guiding principles on governance, an optimal model of shared governance as an ultimate goal, constituent assembly equaling a campus senate, accountability, involvement in decision making process, a list of Executive Council accomplishments, and service. President Karlin also informed Executive Council that the Fall 2008 Wednesday schedule includes meeting time from 11:30a-2:45p.

3. Sabbaticals Task Force

Members of Executive Council reviewed the Sabbaticals Task Force report and provided comments and suggestions for changes. Suggestions included not having an Under 10 representative on the committee, recommending 2 committees, 1 to review sabbaticals and 1 to review SBR, removing the "reward for service" language, de-emphasizing the full-year sabbatical due to limited number available, maximize sabbatical opportunities especially using Union/state numbers, clarifying the paragraph describing competitions for limited number of

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slots, using more proactive language in the opening paragraph, and removing the language on one sabbatical in a faculty lifetime.

Action Item: President Karlin will provide Executive Council feedback to the Sabbatical Task Force.

4. General Education goals and objectives

Members of Executive Council reviewed the document dated April 4, 2007, and questioned if ARC had any involvement. Consensus among Executive Council was that assessing General Education was the purview of the faculty.

5. Academic Plan

The current draft of the Academic Plan is dated May 23, 2007. Executive Council questioned whether this document incorporated any feedback or changes. Members present also discussed at length the variety of goals, reasonably accomplishable goals, measurement of objectives, and the number of bullet points under some of the goals.

Action Item: Assessment will be on the agenda for discussion with Provost Barnett at next week's meeting.

6. President's Climate Change Commitment

President Mercer will announce at today's Faculty Assembly the formation of a committee charged with enacting the principles of the Commitment. The committee will be chaired by Emma Rainforth. Eric Wiener will also be on the committee as a representative to the Board of Trustees Capital Improvements committee.

Submitted by M. Sexton, January 17, 2008