March 2019 Faculty Senate Newsletter

This newsletter covers business conducted during the March 28, 2019 Faculty Senate meeting.

Of Particular Importance to *All* University Faculty

Conflict of Commitment Policy

Professor Kenneth Ledford, chair of the Senate By-Laws Committee, and Suzanne Rivera, Vice President for Research (via Zoom) introduced a conflict of commitment policy which was originally presented last year. A revised policy was reviewed and approved by the Committees on Research, Faculty Personnel and By-Laws. The original proposal called for adding to the Conflict of Interest Policy, but the new version revised the policy in the Faculty Handbook on *Non-University Activities of Faculty Members During the Contractual Period* (Chapter 3, Part One, Article III). The proposed policy includes a list of activities that would not be considered "consulting or similar services" and therefore would not require approval from a department chair or dean. It also provides that for consulting and similar services, an average of four working days per month (including travel time) during a faculty member's contract period is reasonable. This language was adopted from an earlier version of the Faculty Handbook. Suzanne Rivera, Vice President of Research, said that they were intentional about not prescribing a specific process for all schools to follow. This will be up to each individual unit. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the proposed policy.

Update on Faculty Participation in Diversity 360

Marilyn Mobley, Vice President for Inclusion, Diversity and Equal Opportunity, presented information on faculty participation in Diversity 360 training. The presentation was a follow-up to a report made earlier in the year that had raised a number of questions. Vice President Mobley explained that when Diversity 360 training first started, there were some discrepancies in recordkeeping and not all names of participants were recorded. In order to rectify this situation, the OIDEO Office will be emailing faculty and asking them to confirm whether they participated in Diversity 360. Current OIDEO records show that approximately 50% of the 2018-2019 faculty senators and 25% of all faculty completed the training.

Report on Community Concerns Reporting System

Dean Patterson, Associate Vice President and Dean of Students, reported on the university's Community Concerns System (CCRS) (previously known as the Bias Reporting System). Vice President Patterson said that since May of 2018, 22 reports were made through the CCRS. The CCRS is intended for student use, but 4 reports were made by non-students (faculty, staff, post-docs). These reports were redirected to the appropriate offices. The majority of student reports were made without a request for follow-up or direct action. Vice President Patterson said that the system allows for more narrative than it did previously which can be very helpful to students.

Faculty Budget Priorities Subcommittee Charge

Prof. Ledford presented the proposed charge for the Faculty Budget Priorities Subcommittee which would formalize the Subcommittee under the Senate Finance Committee. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the language of the charge. A vote of the University Faculty will also be required since the charge is contained within Chapter 2 (Faculty Constitution) of the Faculty Handbook.

Other Items from the Meeting

Master of Science in Anesthesia- Austin, Texas
The Faculty Senate approved a satellite program in Austin, Texas for the Master of Science in Anesthesia.

Re-Approval of 2019-2024 CWRU Academic Calendar
A recently approved change to the policy for graduate student incomplete grades had not been incorporated into the version of the 2019-2024 academic calendar approved by the Faculty Senate at the February 25th Senate meeting. The revised version of the calendar was presented to and approved by the Senate.

Standing Committee Report: Faculty Senate Committee on Information and Communication Technology (FSCICT)
Professor Steven Hauck, chair of FSCICT, reported on the Committee's activities during the academic year.

Standing Committee Report: Faculty Senate Committee on University Libraries (FSCUL)
Professor Paul Iversen, chair of FSCUL, was unable to attend the Senate meeting, but provided the Senate with a written year-end report.

More detailed information on all items included in this newsletter are available on the Google site at **https://tinyurl.com/y6fpc2wl**. *Once the minutes have been approved (at the following Faculty Senate meeting), they will be posted on the Senate website along with all related documents.*