CHAS Faculty Senate
December 5, 2011
Minutes 3

Present: Todd Bohnenkamp, Francis Degnin (Chair), John Deisz, Tim Dooley, Richard Glockner, John Groves, Jeffrey Morgan, Alexsander Poleksic, Kurt Pontasch, Suzanne Riehl, Paul Siddens, Laura Strauss, Tina Su, Richard Vanderwall, Julie Zhang; CHAS Dean, Joel Haack

Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes from previous meeting
2. Announcements
3. Additional Curriculum Reviews/approvals
   a. Industrial Tech
4. Committee Updates
   a. Strategic Planning
   b. Awards
5. Dean’s Update
6. Discussion of Awards Candidates
7. Provost’s Charge on the Fourth Course Committee
8. New business?

3:35, Chair Degnin Calls to Order.

1. Chair Degnin motions to approve Minutes 1 and 2. No minutes available.
2. Announcements:
   None.
3. Industrial Tech Curriculum packet approved. Motion to approve by Senator Siddens, Second by Senator Riehl.
4. Committee Updates
   a. Dean Haack discussed the CHAS Strategic Plan
      1. There is a plan to have the strategic plan available to the college by Spring Break, 2012
      2. Dean Haack would like implementation of the strategic plan with input from faculty
   b. Awards Committee
      1. Senator Riehl proposed two teaching awards within the liberal arts core worth $750.00 each, and a single award for teaching within a department for $750.00.
      2. Chair Degnin requested that this proposal be circulated to each CHAS Senate member. A decision will be made in April, with awards presented in September, 2012.

5. Dean’s Update
   a. Dean Haack reported the following updates:
      1. The interviews for the Vice-President for Administration and Finance will be upcoming.
      2. There will be a search for a CHAS coordinator of Tech Support
      3. There will also be a search for a fourth staff member in CHAS Tech Support to return staff to previous levels.

6. Discussion of Awards Candidates
   The following awards were discussed:
   1. Class of 1943 – 1
   2. Nelson - 2
   3. Regents – 3
   a. Chair Degnin noted that the University Book and Supply Outstanding Teaching Awards were reduced from 5 awards to 4.
   b. There was discussion amongst the Senate re: the potential for departments to nominate more than one faculty member per department for the Regents Award.
   c. Senator Pontasch motioned to approve the solicitation of names for the awards, second by Senator Vanderwall.
   d. Senator Riehl requested that Chair Degnin solicit letters of teaching support for candidates.
e. In addition, Chair Degnin could notify nominees that their names have been forwarded and to prepare their application materials.

7. Provost's Charge on the Fourth Course Committee
   a. Chair Degnin has passed along the charge from the Provost to define a 4+4 teaching load for the faculty. This is requested by first week of Spring classes in order to schedule Fall 2012, with a more substantial review to follow.
   b. Senators mentioned that the charge is very important and should not be rushed and that the timeline is quite short.
   c. In particular, concerns included the definition of “peer-reviewed” in departments such as Art and Music
   d. Chair Degnin requested that Senators distribute the Provost's memo to the department and to synthesize key elements and report back to Chair Degnin (former CHFA departments) and Senator Strauss (former CNS departments).
   e. Senators discussed the fact that letters of offer never mention the percentage of service required and that the criteria are for scholarly activity and do not take service activities into account.
   f. Additional comments mentioned that “service research” projects in communities, for instance, are lost in the shuffle.
   g. Senators also were interested in how the mentoring of student research fit as well as how someone on a 4+4 could ever catch up and return to 3+3.
   h. The Senate discussed the issue that the teaching of online courses requires extra effort and that it might be difficult for those who are using online teaching to be scholarly active.
   i. The Dean and Senate discussed the point of peer-review, in that once you make tenure, you are deemed a scholar, and all associated activities are viewed as 'scholarly.' It is up to the individual faculty member to determine what constitutes scholarly activity.
   j. There was concern that the determination of what constitutes active scholarship is vague and arbitrary, particularly as it relates to the amount of funding required and awarded ($50,000). In addition, some faculty members conduct research in areas that will not match the changes.
   k. There was concern that the role of Department Heads is diminished under the new plan.
8. Dean Haack and Chair Degnin requested two nominees who would serve on the Regents Award committee.

Senator Vanderwall motions to adjourn. Senator Strauss seconds.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd A. Bohnenkamp, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Secretary, CHAS Senate