

Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) Report Given to the University Senate on 27 September 2010 Submitted by Craig Turner

At its 3 Sep 2010 meeting, FAPC

1. reviewed and approved committee operating procedures.
These procedures are accessible on the FAPC web presence and were filed with the Executive Committee on 4 Sep 2010 as called for in Article III, Section 1 of the University Senate Bylaws.
2. considered an issue labeled “Academic Year Faculty Availability in the Summer.”
This issue arose from a concern that academic year faculty were expected to engage in service functions (advising students, participate in summer orientations, serve on committees, etc.) during the summer when they are not compensated or under contract. The committee work group surveyed a sample of fifty-four (twenty-five responding) members of the university faculty. After discussion of the survey results, the committee unanimously agreed that this issue would best be handled at the department/unit level and that Alex Blazer should attend a meeting of the University Chairs Council to present the summary survey information (e.g., uneven or uncompensated summer job responsibilities) and encourage chairs to have conversations at the department/unit level as appropriate and necessary.
3. continued committee deliberation of “Post-Tenure Review.”
This issue arose from a concern about the post-tenure review appeal process and was discussed at the April 2010 meeting of the 2009-2010 FAPC and passed to this year’s committee for further deliberation. The committee received an oral report providing a brief history of the emergence and development of post-tenure review within the University System of Georgia and this institution. In addition, the presenter indicated that the university system level guidance calls for post-tenure review to focus on professional development of the faculty member under review and that post-tenure review is thus formative rather than summative. The committee unanimously recommended that the post-tenure review work group be expanded to include at least one representative from each academic unit (colleges and library) and that the work group review the post-tenure review language in the GCSU Academic Affairs Handbook ensuring clarity and a careful review of the appeal process. Following the 3 Sep 2010 committee meeting, this work group has been populated. Members of this workgroup include Martha Colvin (CoHS), Lee Digiovanni (CoE), Nancy Davis Bray (Library), Ken Farr (CoB), Mike Rose (CoAS), and Craig Turner (CoAS). This work group is presently seeking a time for its first meeting.

Tentative Agenda for 1 Oct 2010 meeting (12:30-1:45 in Arts & Sciences 1-15)

1. Faculty Evaluation, Triggering Reviews of Department Chairs (work group update)
These issues arose at the 30 Apr 2010 organizational committee meeting. The committee will temper and inform its deliberation with the scope of the University Senate that includes a responsibility to recommend and review university policies as well as an advisory role to the administration on matters with broad institutional impact while simultaneously being mindful and respectful of matters more appropriately handled at the divisional, college, and department levels. This is particularly relevant here as faculty evaluation is under review at the department level during the 2010-2011 academic year. The possibility of triggering a five year review of a department chair prior to the time this review would ordinarily occur is the other matter to be discussed.