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Date: Fri, 30 Apr 2010 19:23:45 -0400
Subject: FYI: 2010-2011 FAPC Workgroups

Greetings 2010-2011 FAPC members,

Thank you for your participation at the organizational meeting today (Friday 30 April 2010). Thought I would take a moment to summarize what I heard at the meeting. Please let me know if you notice any errors or came away with a different perception/impression.

First, Karynne Kleine's masterful facilitation of the officer elections is greatly appreciated as well as the contextual information that she supplied to the committee regarding the University Senate. Moreover, the willingness of Mike Rose to take minutes for this meeting is gratefully acknowledged.

Second, officers elected were
Chair: Craig Turner
Vice-Chair: Lee Digiovanni
Secretary: Mike Rose

Third, we do not yet have official information on the identity of Provost Jordan's designee to our committee.

Fourth, the meeting location for the next meeting of the 2010-2011 FAPC was determined to be a conference room on the first floor of Arts & Sciences (either 1-15 Psychology conference room OR 1-16 Math conference room) on a 7 - 4 preference poll. Naturally, the committee can choose to further discuss and reconsider meeting location at a future meeting.

Fifth, the 2009-2010 FAPC recommends that post-tenure review be further considered by the 2010-2011 FAPC and recommends that the 2010-2011 FAPC consider strongly a transition from reviewing "minutia" to assuming a faculty advocacy role.

Sixth, a tentative list of initiatives to consider for the 2010-2011 academic year was constructed and each committee member was invited to participate as a member of the work group on at least one initiative. These initiatives will be discussed at future meetings and FAPC is free to curtail or continue these conversations as well as adopt new initiatives.

Seventh, the initiatives and work groups are given below. ***If you have not yet expressed interest in serving on a work group, please let me know of your preference(s) at your earliest convenience.***

Note: Please do not allow the summaries I provide below to limit your work group conversations. (I know you won't.) I am simply attempting to capture (while it is fresh in my mind) approximations to the conversations -- and these approximations include in some cases perceptions/impressions that occurred to me during and following our meeting today. Each work group is naturally free to inform its conversations with the perceptions and opinions of its membership. In addition, a work group is welcome to recruit members from the GCSU faculty that are not formally members of the 2010-2011 FAPC.

A. Post-Tenure Review: **Lee Digiovanni, Mike Rose, Craig Turner**

Review the GCSU post-tenure policy (specifically the appeal process) and offer recommendations on revisions (if any) for consideration by FAPC.

B. Faculty Senate separate from or in addition to University Senate: **Ben Davis, Bill Risch, Mike Whitfield**

Discuss the notion of the implementation of a faculty senate like unit (name might be something other than faculty senate or faculty council) and its proposed role in relation to the existing University Senate and bring recommendations for consideration by FAPC.

C. Academic Year Faculty Availability in Summer: **Alex Blazer**

Bring recommendations (if any) on a policy for faculty availability in the summer months (between the end of one contract and the beginning of another) for events such as advising for student orientations, etc.

D. Balancing Workload and Scheduling: **No takers yet**

This had to do with perceptions that workload within some departments is perceived to not always be balanced and that scheduling (the classes assigned to a faculty member) were not always conducive to a faculty member maximizing her/his productivity. One opinion was that this was possibly more appropriately handled at the department level, and FAPC should be mindful and respectful of departmental autonomy. Another opinion was that broad university policy that provided departments flexibility might be appropriate within the FAPC faculty advocacy role. The fact that there are 2, 3, and 4 hour courses was also mentioned in this conversation, noting that assigning faculty a combination of 2, 3, and 4 hour courses is not always conducive to averaging a 12 hour load per academic term (semester). Again care must be taken to respect and promote department and college autonomy.

E. Faculty Evaluation, Triggering Reviews of Department Chairs: **Sally Humphries, Susan Steele**

While it was noted that faculty evaluation was a campus initiative being discussed at the department and college levels, it was also noted that FAPC recommendations on faculty evaluation could be broad to afford departments flexibility and promote department autonomy, yet again this topic may be appropriate within the FAPC faculty advocacy role. As for the triggered reviews of department chairs, there was a thought that a mechanism for triggering a review of a department chair (prior to the formal five-year review) is worth a conversation. This work group is asked to consider these two matters and bring recommendations to FAPC for consideration.

F. Furloughs: **No takers yet.**

One perspective was to consider this proactively and advocate for faculty voice in conversations at the highest level (USG, legislative) when furloughs are being considered. Another perspective was that perhaps this advocacy role might most effectively be handled external to GCSU (say by the Georgia Conference of the American Association of University Professors OR the advocates for the University System of Georgia Faculty Council) and that this might be an activity in tilting at windmills at the local level.

Eighth, the operating procedures of the 2009-2010 FAPC will be reviewed at a future meeting as the development of a set of operating procedures for 2010-2011 FAPC is considered. Opinions expressed on this matter were a recommendation for implementing a "loose" Robert's Rules as well as consideration of the practice of having a designated "safe word" that could be used by any committee member to propose curtailing a conversation on a matter to the membership. This "safe word" would empower any member of the committee with a mechanism to promote efficient use of committee meeting time.

Ninth, one of the continuing committee members officially recognized the extraordinary leadership exhibited by the officers of the 2009-2010 FAPC, specifically Lee Digiovanni (Chair), Mike Rose (Vice-Chair) and Sara Buck-Doude (Secretary).

Tenth, no clarifications were necessary from the minute taker Mike Rose.

Eleventh, meeting adjourned.