ARTS AND SCIENCES CHAIRS’ COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
10/24/05


Announcements

Judges’ Day is coming up.
The Academic Hall of Fame – The Nominating Committee is scheduled to meet soon.
The deadline is soon for alteration projects.
*Sweet Charity* is opening this weekend.

Budget

Energy Crisis
Energy costs have increased by $2 million. This is taking its toll on Cortland’s reserves.
System Administration has said no to the request for help.

Facilities

The Master Plan is being updated. The Education Building, Studio West, the Student Life Center, and renovation of Bowers will be added to the existing Plan.
The renovation of windows in Old Main should be completed by the end of Summer 06.

Personnel

A. Mooney will retire next June and W. Lane will retire in December.
B. Searches:
Group Ad Question - Primary references etc. on adjuncts -- is it necessary to go any further than primary? Chairs thought further checks were overkill, and HR has agreed.
Regarding full time searches the President thinks tertiary-level checks are needed. J. Barry and W. McAllister will be invited to a future Chairs’ Council meeting.

Curriculum

Independent Studies
UUP has raised the issue.
a. Can they be required of faculty
b. How many are part of load and how many are overload?
c. Is there a policy on compensation for indpt studies?
Recent data indicate 96 sections of independent studies offered in one semester
Independent Study – needs to be looked at by department (e.g., for Physics they have been particularly problematic.)

**External Review**
This issue is being discussed at Faculty Senate. One pilot idea is to apply external review requirement only to promotion to full professor.

**Expectations for Scholarship**
The context of the proposal is Middle States, i.e. resolving appearance of workload inequity.
Proposal: One work of peer-reviewed scholarship every other year.
Chairs Discussion included these points:
In this context we should note that department criteria are always vague. Arts and Sciences may have a higher standard than Education or Professional Studies on scholarship. No written proposal is in place yet, we are waiting on the Provost.

There appears to be a lack of flexibility in this proposal.
Departments need to get their bylaws approved regarding personnel issues – especially regarding criteria for promotion and tenure.
Is it a requirement?  Yes.  Is it a suggestion?  Yes.
Desire for flexibility and the desire to provide support for young faculty are all part of the picture.
The proposal would not be applicable to current faculty on board.

**College Writing Committee Proposals**
Postponed until the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerome O’Callaghan
Associate Dean