Arts and Sciences Chairs’ Council Meeting Minutes
5/7/12

Present: Bruce Mattingly, Margaret Anderson, Scott Anderson, Seth Asumah, Robert Darling, Peter Ducey, Broyles, Lori Ellis, Christopher Gascon, Isa Jubran, Matthew Lessig, David Neal, Jerome O’Callaghan, Gregory Phelan, Kathryn Russell, William Skipper, Brice Smith, Robert Spitzer, Sharon Steadman, Randi Storch, Paul van der Veur, German Zarate.
Absent: Kathryn Russell

Admissions Update: None

Associate Dean’s Report:

Curriculum: committees have stopped meeting. Curriculum data: 120 proposals in A&S; 40 in the fall and 80 in the spring.
Final exams: very important to get grades in on time due to decisions we make quickly about suspension, probation etc.

Personnel:

The TESOL search failed.
ECO has finished the telephone interviews.
Art is inviting three candidates to campus.
Provost: Fifteen searches definitely for fall 2012 (maybe 20 possible)
Jamie Dangler has a 2 year appointment at UUP in Albany. Looking for a visiting professor position.
Note message from Joanne Barry: there are several vacancies on Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate committees. Let’s plan for fall action on these vacancies.
Bruce Mattingly: we need to keep those positions filled.

Facilities:

Dowd Surge – patience will be needed regarding late changes in the allocation of rooms.
Courses with enrollment under ten – Bruce M. has a recent report. There are many independent studies in there. Possible cancellations in the works. Bearing in mind transfers and courses needed for graduation.

Academic Equipment Requirements:

Bruce ranked the proposals and sent them to the Provost. Arts & Sciences requests total $155,000. Total available funds are $85,000 for 3 schools (A&S is likely to get $30 to &40 thousand).
Some small requests can be covered by Deans’ and departments’ OTPS.

Budgets:
Cautious optimism.

Curriculum:
update from J. O’Callaghan.
**Assessment:**
SPA reports will be needed soon. Let’s get going early.

**Old Business:** Regarding OTPS, the provost will probably allocate department budgets himself. The Provost is aware of our discussions.
There is no decision yet.
Faculty Searches – no decision yet re: A&S share

**New Business:**

Signing a card for Ram Chaturvedi’s widow.
Annual Reports - no date yet. Expect data from Merle.
Not anticipating DSI, until the contract issue is resolved.
Adjunct rate pay: David Neal – there is a lot of variety across SUNY. It’s difficult to work with the $2590 rate. Is the college considering a raise?

Bruce: nothing recent. The Provost has said to Bruce that adjunct raise is tied to salaries “no longer being competitive.” So keep Bruce informed of that.

David Neal: we have lost 2 dance teachers for that reason.
-It’s hurting academic excellence to be on this bottom tier.
-People have limited options to speak out about this.

Bruce: key issue is the choice between adjunct rate increase vs. hiring new faculty. Do we want to propose a “rational adjunct salary policy.”

Randi Storch: don’t forget the bizarre (low) amount of promotion money.

Sharon Steadman: remember the loyalty factor.

Bob Darling: lab instructors are paid less than adjuncts at about $1800.

Seth Asumah: totally defending adjuncts. There is too much turnover due to low pay.

**Announcement:**

The Diversity Institute deadline is May 8, 2012.

Winter 5/11/12 deadline for proposals.
Isa: we need more days in winter session.
Bruce: will bring this back to the Winter Advisory Committee.

Bruce: thanks to all.

Kathy Russell: has been on the Chairs’ Council for twelve years and is now going on sabbatical. Congratulations to Kathy.