Arts and Sciences Chairs’ Council Meeting Minutes 10/21/13

Guest: Alexandru Balas,
Absent: Seth Asumah

Announcements:

Alex Balas is looking for more items in inventory of technology and internationalization.

Dean’s Office: No report from Associate Dean

Topics Discussed:

Terms of Engagement Project - Presented by K. Graham: an opportunity for faculty and staff to learn more about free online tools to foster student engagement. Nine campuses are doing this. The emphasis is on a self-paced collaborative blog. Some incentives apply. To sign up, faculty must act by 11/30/13, and complete your work by 3/3/14.

Concerns Raised:

DRL leave. Research done by Joanna Barry – see email from Binghamton. For adjuncts, have it treated as similar to sick leave, conference, etc., absences. Adjuncts should consult with the Chair on this. The virtue of this is that student impact is minimal. Deans are now looking for advice from Chairs. Scott notes that the impact on once a week classes is intense.
Pete: appreciates treating adjuncts differently from full-time. The problem in sciences is cancelling half a set of labs. Can we pay for a substitute? The answer is no.
Randi: adjuncts need to know not to fake this. Falsifying a state work record is a felony.
Question: are visiting faculty counted as full-time or part-time? They’re paid from temp services. Bruce will check.
David – it’s inevitable that there will be a negative impact on students.
Judy: maybe it’s better to wait; we don’t know the recording mechanism, yet.
Henry: are two half-day DRL’s a way around this?
Paul: when do adjuncts sever from service from Cortland?
David B.: how much money is an adjunct losing? That will lessen the problem of defining “one day.”
Per Kathy, it is 2.8 percent. Students should know (i.e. be told) why this time is lost. The policy does not apply to extra service.
Awaiting word from Joanne Barry.
Is it preferable to go the Binghamton style? Generally, yes.
Phrasing is critical – some prefer “the expectation is” that the adjunct will take a teaching day, as better than the language of “options are…”.
Pete D.: desperately need to coordinate the adjunct choice of the day.
Andy drafted an advisory statement: “Because you are contracted for teaching days, the college expects you to take teaching days as DRL time in the academic year.”
Question: is it a teaching day that must be used? Vote is: yes, 15; no, 0. re supporting Andy’s statement.