

## **Arts and Sciences Chairs' Council Meeting Minutes 4/21/14**

### **DRAFT**

Present: Bruce Mattingly, Scott Anderson, Seth Asumah, David Barclay, Kathleen Burke, Peter Ducey, Andrew Fitz-Gibbon, Timothy Gerhard, Herbert Haines, Isa Jubran, Kathryn Kramer, Matthew Lessig, David Neal, Jerome O'Callaghan, Judith Ouellette, Gregory Phelan, Brice Smith, Henry Steck, Randi Storch, Paul van der Veur.

Guest: Alexandru Balas

#### **Announcements:**

- Faculty Senate vacancies. 151 tenure track faculty in A&S; see Joanne's email 4-17-14; there are 15 vacancies in A&S seats. Don't forget GE committee is on that list. Bruce is appealing for your assistance.
- Comment: the Faculty Senate is broken. People see this already.
- Administrative update: there was a recent email about some SUNY campuses cutting posters. There are no plans on this campus to cut posters.
- GFEC is looking for new members from the Math/Sci area.

#### **Topics Discussed:**

- UUP – recent proposal that P/T appointments be no less than one year or ten months. HR generally supports this approach.
- Response: some departments want the flexibility to use a one-semester contract. Very context sensitive. Too many contingencies. The status quo does allow using a one-year contract at will.
- There is no actual change to their real status in terms of job security. Semester to semester changes are significant.
- Don't forget the morale issue. Also, student teaching supervisors are sometimes once/year.
- Don't forget interdisciplinary programs, depending on particular departments to offer key courses.
- Criteria for new line requests: one example is growth in the program; the specifics are important. Question of exceeding capacity. Possible addition to the list of criteria is length of vacancy. Student credit hours/FTE. The underlying problem is measuring workload accurately. On top of that you have the issue of release time. Class size is its own criterion (especially giant-size classes). Don't forget the unmet GE demand and not providing the required courses.
- Workload report: one needed to make key corrections. There is still a problem in counting contact hours.
- Recall some grants restrict ability of professors to teach overload. Comparable size of other SUNY depts.. Don't forget faculty are needed to deliver the program.

- There were gradual increases in class size over the years. Special Topics offerings work in the opposite direction. Are depts. who cut temporary budgets punished in this process?

**Concerns Raised:**

- Spring 2014 Final Exam Scheduling – the exam schedule had many errors. Not happy with the errors from the Registrar’s Office. Overlapping sciences and math exams. Does the last exam occur after the residence halls close?
- The ratio of faculty hires to administrative hires remains a concern.

**Dean’s Office:**

- Office 365- why now? There was not enough notice or consulting in advance. The timing is bad, given the pressure of the end of the semester. The lack of dialog is a symptom of disinterest in faculty.
- Fall 2014- there were 24 requests for switching classrooms at the Dean’s desk. He is not ready to address that, yet. The first issue is low enrolled courses.
- New faculty are not obliged to take furlough days. They are losing the DRL % in pay in the short term.

**Other: none**