**GFC Meeting 3/14/2018**

**Present:** John Alexander, Joanne Lannigan, Ed Murphy, Angela Pineros-Fernandez, Ibby Roberts, Sarah Ware, Keith Weimer, Diane Whaley

**Agenda:**

**Senior Professional Research Staff (SPRS)**

The Provost has established a policy regarding SPRS ([HRM – 033: Employment of Professional Research Staff)](http://uvapolicy.virginia.edu/policy/hrm-033), but dealing with non-tenure track faculty overshadowed discussion about SPRS, effectively tabled all discussion.

SPRS were typically scientific researchers embedded in labs, but recently this designation has been extended to librarians at the Law School. SPRS are not supposed to teach courses, but the Law Library does allow SPRS to teach. How do they do that w/o directly violating policy?

Joanne Lannigan described performing a role which in most other cases that she is aware of, is occupied by faculty. The policy was originally meant for people working in research labs on a temporary basis. There should be a system to move SPRS to faculty status if the University plans to keep these individuals on long-term. SPRS are likely postdoctoral researchers. The work on grants, do research, all the things that faculty do in order to get promoted, but without the privileges. SPRS have the same benefits as faculty, but not ECE, or a promotional mechanism of any kind. They have no representation except possibly GFC.

Joanne will poll SPRS to see if they are aware of the policy, and learn what their issues are. SPRS were not consulted in the formation of the Provost’s policy. The GF-SPRS roster dates from 2014, and probably needs to be updated. John Gaskins may be able to help with this.

GFC should invite a representative from the Provost’s Office to discuss SPRS. Sarah will request this meeting at the next Provost’s office hours.

Ed Murphy will include request for representation from SPRS in his email about the upcoming election.

**Mentoring**

Tentatively planning an event for May aimed at preparing faculty for promotion beyond the Associate Professor level. Diane and Angela will send a note to department heads to find out whether they have a mentoring program for general faculty. Sarah will draft the email. Venue will be a location on Central Grounds—possibly the Byrd-Morris Room in Harrison-Small or a room in Newcomb.

Eventually we can create a portal for mentoring on the GFC website. We will list existing mentoring programs and offer ours as a supplement. The Faculty Guides in Arts and Sciences who help explain policy would be listed as a resource. Perhaps an additional guide could be created for SPRS?

The question was raised whether general faculty will be represented on the search committee for new provost? Sarah will check with Mimi Riley

**Committee Reports**

**Communication**  -- Mentoring event described above

**Elections** –8 spots

--Professional Schools (currently empty, was held by Sarah Ware, should have been filled by a special election last fall) We have one candidate, Barbara Millar for this seat. I have received her candidate statement.

--Libraries (currently held by Keith Weimer, he will fill the At Large Chair position next year, so this seat will be open) One candidate, Chris Gist, has been nominated for this seat. Chris did not respond to my earlier email asking if he accepts the nomination and requesting a candidate statement. I sent a reminder this afternoon.

--At Large (currently held by Ana Abad-Jorge, she is eligible for

reelection)

--At Large (currently held by Joanne Lannigan, she is not eligible for

reelection)

We have five candidates for the At Large seats:

Julia May

Hope Kelly

Derrick Williams

Yuri Urbanovich

Nammy Lee

I have candidate statements from 4 of the 5. Nammy Lee said she would get her statement to me by today.

--Administration (currently held by Joy Pugh, she is eligible for

reelection)

--Administration (currently held by Sarah Wells, she is eligible for

reelection)

We currently have no nominations for Administration. Meredith Hayden has declined the nomination offered by Chris Holstege due to new initiatives that she is involved in. At least one of these seats will become At Large if the GFC approves the vote. Should we ask about the other seat?

--Arts and Sciences (currently held by Anne Verbiscer, she is eligible for reelection but has not attended any meetings since last year) Liuti Simonetta has nominated herself for the position, but has not yet sent me her candidate statement.

--Health Professionals (currently held by Janet Warren, she is eligible for reelection) Janet Warren has agreed to run for re-election. I have received her candidate statement.

To sum up, we have no nominations for the two administration seats. I would appreciate your opinion on whether we should shift both to At Large, or if we should leave one vacant and include it in the next round of elections, whether it be a special election in the fall (if one is needed) or the regular election next spring.

There was discussion about “inactive” council members? Those who have missed more than two meetings and haven’t sent a representative. Sarah will email them and see if they want to continue.

**Bylaws**—The Bylaws include lacunae that need to be corrected, cross references that don’t quite make sense. We need to approve it as exec committee first, then go out for council’s approval before the election.

**Website and Webmaster:** We need someone to devote time to these roles; the website has been neglected during the heavy policy work of the past two years.

Need a website now that we are done with policies; need a webmaster

John Gaskins and Janet Warren had volunteered to help with the website. They should attend a class about website accessibility.

We may want to start from scratch and make a new website. Ibby can ask in her department for template suggestions. The Faculty Senate spent a lot of money last year redesigning their site, so we were hoping to use as a template. Mimi Riley was involved in that site redesign.

**Other** --Ed Murphy mentioned that University Human Resources (UHR) has constituted a council of people to advise them on everything that UHR does. Ed has been asked to serve on this committee.