

GENERAL FACULTY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

12:00 - 1:30pm

Alderman Library, Scholars' Lab

Present

Council Members: G. Saathoff, J. Stertz, M. Slon, A. Ingram, D. Gioeli, B. Nowviskie, B. Kessler, J. Lannigan, P. Walsh, D. Williams, S. Ware, J. Sitler, D. Karaoli,
Guests: E. Murphy, W. Heinecke, C. Ruotolo, L. Mellusi, J. Alexander

1. The meeting was called to order by Bethany Nowviskie. A quorum was established.
2. Minutes from the March 12, 2014 meeting were approved with amendments.

Guest: Laura Mellusi, Provost Employee Communication Council

3. The Provost Employee Communication Council (PECC) has sensed a growing interest in flexible work schedules. Currently the school has two existing policies, Alternate Schedule and Telecommuting, but these do not overlap.
4. The PECC is also hearing interest in other issues related to work scheduling, such as support for nursing mothers, access to summer day camps for kids, etc.
5. The GFC affirmed its shared interest in these issues.
6. PECC has begun looking into what policies are working well at different schools. The GFC will look into exit interviews as a possible source of information.

Committee Reports:

7. Elections Committee (Jeff Sitler)
 - a. The following council members were elected this spring:
 - i. John Alexander, representing Administration
 - ii. Michael Slon and Ed Murphy, representing Arts and Sciences
 - iii. Kevin Sauer, representing Athletics
 - iv. Derick Williams, representing Education

- v. Carolyn Vallas, representing Engineering
- vi. A tie for a Health Professionals seat will be resolved in a run-off election.
- vii. Changes to the bylaws were approved.

8. Communications Committee (Jennifer Stertzner)

- a. The GFC will host a social event at the Colonnade Club on May 5, 2014 from 3:30-5:30 PM. We have invited the Provost's Office, the NTTF Task Force, and members of One UVA.

New Business

9. The GFC discussed a change in the bylaws that would help ensure a smooth transition from the Chair Elect position to the Chair position.

- a. The proposed change to the Bylaws would create a special At-Large seat to be held by the Chair during the Chair's one-year tenure. The Chair would vacate his/her regular seat, which would be filled in the regular spring election, preceding the June meeting when the Chair Elect becomes Chair.
- b. This will remove any need for the Chair-Elect to be reelected as a condition for rising to Chair. This will also allow the Chair to serve as a neutral convener of meetings, without any conflict as representative of a particular constituency. The outgoing Chair will serve on the Council ex-officio for one year following service as Chair.
- c. Agreed that the change to the Bylaws will be put to a vote by the GFC and, if approved, will be included for ratification in the run-off election to be held for the Health Professionals seat.

10. The GFC also discussed possible changes to its representation model.

- a. A proposal was made to reduce each school to one dedicated seat; create dedicated seats for Administrative & Professional Faculty, Teaching & Research Faculty, and Senior Professional Research Staff; and shift all remaining seats in to the At-Large category.
- b. The goals of the proposal were to ensure the presence of voices not currently guaranteed representation on the Council (e.g. SPRS), to allow representation to adapt as interest ebbs and flows, to allow flexibility in recruiting candidates, and to engage greater numbers through the increase in At-Large voting.
- c. Members of the GFC expressed a number of concerns about how this model would play out over time. Agreed that the representation model should be given further consideration before any changes are made.