Faculty Affairs Committee  
November 16, 2006  
Manners Room, RCB  
1-3 PM  

Minutes  

Present:  
Jeff Ashby, Hiram Barksdale, Cathy Brack,  
Joan Carson, Harry Dangel, Lynda Goodfellow,  
Ron Henry (Guest), John Medlock, Robin Morris, (Guest)  
David Pavesic, Jerry Rackliffe, Cherian Thachenkary,  
Phang C Tal (Guest), and Marta White  

Call to Order:  
H. Dangel, acting chair, informed the committee that  
the Chair, C. Grindel, was attending a conference and he  
would be filling in for her.  

Approval of Minutes:  
The minutes of October 11 were approved.  

307.06 Limitation on Tenure-Eligible Service:  
Provost Henry told the Committee that the present policy at  
GSU to delay the tenure clock is not in compliance with the  
BOR. Hence the FAC has been working on a policy that would  
be in compliance. According to the BOR in order to delay the  
tenure clock there must be an approved leave of absence for  
the purpose of stopping the tenure clock. The Provost had  
suggested that length of the leave of absence to qualify for  
stopping the tenure clock be set at 10 weeks.  
H. Dangel asked if including events of sickness of an  
immediate family member, disability, etc., can be inclusive in  
the request as the goal of the Committee is to make the policy  
as faculty friendly as possible. Provost Henry did not see any  
problems with that inclusion.  

M. White wanted to know why the current policy needs  
changing at all when it is similar to ones used by other  
universities, e.g. UGA. She suggested that perhaps the BOR  
can be requested to be consistent with the policy at GSU for  
GSU to continue receiving optimum productivity.  
After much discussion a motion was proposed that a  
resolution be prepared by GSU, GA Tech and UGA which will  
be more supportive of faculty for the Provost to present to the  
BOR.  
The motion was approved.
PTI Handbook:

All previously recommended amendments to this document had been done.
A motion to approve the PTI handbook was proposed and unanimously approved.

Doctoral Degree Recognition

Robin Morris, VP for Research, presented the Committee a situation where a foreign faculty had listed his BA in Medicine degree on an NIH grant application as an equivalent to the US MD degree. This had raised some concern by the NIH and he wanted the FAC to look into ways that some policy can be put in place to make these clarifications. This confusion is more prevalent in the field of sciences and at the post doc level.

There was much discussion on this subject.

PC Tai, Chair of the Biology Department spoke of the general differentiation problems that post doc faculty from Asian countries have between their credentials from their home countries and credentials obtained in the USA e.g.

*Dr. of Agriculture as opposed to PhD
*Dr. of Medicine as opposed to Medical Doctor

A concensus was reached that a sub-committee consisting of some international faculty, faculty in biology and chemistry as well as some on the Research Committee be put together to look into this issue. R. Morris will provide names from the Research Committee to the FAC.
Volunteers from this committee are C. Thackenkary and L. Goodfellow.

Evaluation of University Administrators and Deans:

Previous recommendations submitted to the Chair for the VP for Research's evaluation and procedures have been incorporated.
H. Dangel asked for further comments and/or updates.
J. Carson suggested:

* "resources allocation" be removed from the evaluation for Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness as her position does not have any resources
* including staff on list of people to be handed evaluation forms for Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness. She works very closely with administrators who are in a position to evaluate her but do not have faculty ranks.
After much discussion, C Thackenkary made a motion that the procedures could be amended to include a notation that certain senior administrators understandably in positions who could contribute valuable feedback to the faculty being evaluated are listed as such. The motion was approved and the task force responsible for reviewing these forms and procedures will make the changes.

FAC Subcommittees:
The time for the student evaluations to get back to faculty is currently two weeks. The task of this committee is to see if that time could be shortened to give faculty an opportunity to incorporate those feedbacks. Members of this Committee are Chip Barksdale, Shelby Frost, Jeff Ashby, and Cheryl Delk.

i) Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness

ii) Enrollment Issues:
L. Goodfellow informed the Committee that subcommittee had not met.

iii) Student Identification:
That Committee will meet after the Thanksgiving holidays and L. Goodfellow will report on the proceedings to the FAC.

New Business:
C. Thackenkary, also of the The Benefits Committee, informed the group that the enrollment period has been reduced. He also told the Committee that the IRS has revised the code regarding flexible spending giving participants 2 1/2 months to carry any unspent monies into the new year. The amount they are allowing is $500.

Old Business:
M. White reported that her name was not included in the list of attendees in the minutes of October 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:13pm.