Deans' Group Minutes 2/09/05


Minutes of 1/26/05 were approved.

Enrollment and budget update
Ron Henry explained that enrollment for FY05 is down 15,000 credit hours compared to FY04. This reduction will have a significant impact on the budget for FY07. Ron Henry mentioned that graduate credit hours are double weighted which impacts the budget considerably since it is graduate credit hours that are down more than undergraduate ones.

Ron Henry reported that the Governor has recommended four major capital projects this year. The Science Teaching Laboratory Building is #7 on that list. There is no additional news on a tuition increase other than speculation that a 5% increase is being considered. The System office is getting serious about providing health insurance for graduate research assistants.

Susan Kelley asked which programs have low enrollment. Ron Henry responded that the Colleges of Business and Education have seen a drop in enrollment. Fenwick Huss stated that the College of Business has begun an aggressive campaign to promote graduate enrollment.

IS&T issues
JL Albert gave an update from the last meeting regarding email slowdowns in the colleges. JL mentioned that 3 help tickets were issued and encouraged the deans to ask their technicians to contact the Help Desk when problems occur. JL distributed a handout listing the available desktop security applications. There was discussion with the deans on the importance of computer security. JL will email the handout list to the deans.

Discussion on mix of Lecturers and TT faculty in doctoral departments
Ron Henry began discussion on this subject by advocating the use of Lecturers in departments which may be seen as a move away from traditional academia practices. Ron Henry asked the deans if it would be better to increase TT faculty. The deans commented and discussed how Lecturers, PTIs, and Visitors are used in their colleges. The comment was made that quality and commitment of PTIs is a concern. Ron Henry responded that clear boundaries will be needed in order to eliminate PTIs and Visitors in departments. Ron Henry added that a healthy mix of Lecturers and TT faculty might work well in departments. The deans were generally in favor of a career path for lecturers and a reduction in the number of temporary and visiting faculty. Lecturers don’t normally teach graduate courses unless they are skill based courses.

Discussion on expectations for promotion to tenure associate professor and to professor
Ron Henry opened the discussion on the expectations in the colleges on promotion and tenure reviews. The deans gave brief examples of how their college performs promotion and tenure reviews. Susan Kelley commented that faculty reviews include national recognition in their disciplines and publication record, with publications in refereed journals being weighted heavier than books. Lauren Adamson commented that faculty must be excellent and/or good in teaching and research with at least one area being excellent. Steve Kaminshine commented that peer reviews are conducted of classroom settings. Fenwick Huss commented that RCB has a short list of quality journals in which faculty are expected to have some publications. Robert Moore commented that faculty reviews include research national reputation in their field, external reviews, a connection to the community outside of academia, and synergy with others in the department. Ron Colarusso commented that the College of Education faculty reviews involve out in the field and research in the schools.
Ron Henry mentioned that additional information on the outside reviewers for the P&T candidate will become the P&T package in the future. Robin Morris commented that faculty involvement with graduate student mentorship and chairing committees will be other factors added for the P&T reviews. Ron Henry added that this topic will kept on the agenda for further discussion.

Criteria for Regents professor
Ron Henry mentioned that this topic will be discussed at the next meeting. In addition, there will be a discussion on awarding emeritus status to faculty.

Any other business
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 23, 9:30-11:30 am, Suite 870 Urban Life Center -CHHS Dean's Office Conference Room

Submitted by Cynthia Fox-Giddens