
Absent: Lillian Cassel (NIA), Jerusha Conner (NIA), Linda Copel, Diane Ellis (NIA), Frank Falcone, David Fiorenza (NIA), Paul Hanouna, Jeremy Kees, Julie Klein (NIA), Kenneth Kroos, Mi Luo, Wenhong Luo (on sabbatical), Susan Mackey-Kallis (NIA), John Olson, Robert O’Neill (NIA), Salvatore Poeta (NIA), Michael Risch (NIA), Katina Sawyer (NIA), Fayette Veverka, Joyce Willens (NIA), Miron Wolnicki

Other Guests: Kim Reilly, Emily Walsh (University Staff Council) Bob Styer (University Senate)

The meeting convened at Noon.

Housekeeping
1. Approval of minutes from March 20, 2015. Motion was made to accept, with several items noted for editing; unanimously approved.

REPORTS:
1. Standing Committees
   a. Academic Policy Committee (Russo): Louise Russo presented the following report: At the last meeting the committee discussed the need to look at the role of adjunct faculty at the university. This becomes more pressing as we move to the new classification as a research university. Recognizing that this question is also the domain of the Committee on Faculty and that the adjunct representatives on the Faculty Congress should be involved in any discussion, the idea of task force on this topic will be pursued over the summer. The University Core Curriculum committee of APC has not been active this semester, but will pick up next semester. Finally, OPIR will come to the next meeting (April 23rd) to discuss the move to online CATS.

   In discussion following this report it became clear that Faculty Congress would like to initiate a discussion next year on the value of continued use of CATS.

   b. Adjunct Faculty Representative (Micucci/McColdrick): Joe Micucci is working on a website for adjunct faculty. Adjunct faculty are very interested in being active in
the ongoing conversation about the role of adjunct faculty at the university as we move to the new classification.

c. Awards Committee: Thomas Way presented the committee’s recommendation for the Facultas Award. A motion was made to accept the recommendation, seconded, and passed unanimously. This award will be presented to the staff person at the annual staff picnic after the May commencement.

d. Committee on Faculty (Kulkarni): The committee has one more meeting prior to the end of the semester. At that meeting it will finalize its work on refining the Faculty Handbook on the selection of departmental chairs. It will also identify the chairperson for the upcoming academic year, and identify a new name for itself. Michael Risch is preparing a report on the university’s policy on intellectual property and its impact on faculty. Craig Wheeland brought an issue regarding faculty compensation to the committee, but this will not be addressed until next year.

e. Elections and Credentials Committee. (Styer). No report.

f. Employee Issues Committee (Conner): No updates to

g. Continuing Non-Tenured Track Faculty (Falcone and O’Neil), No report.

h. Retired Faculty Committee (Joe Betz): No report.

2. Ad Hoc Committees

a. Task force on Carnegie reclassification (Daily, Eckstein) A draft summary report was presented to the Congress for discussion. This report summarized the findings of the sub-committees that generated recommendations from the individual professional colleges and then from CLAS (humanities, social science, math and sciences). Professors Dailey and Eckstein were thanked for their excellent work. A discussion ensued which generated feedback for the taskforce which will be used in editing the draft into final form. This final draft will be voted on at the May 8th meeting.

3. Reports from Faculty representatives to other committees (as necessary)

   Committees that report to the University President

   a. Benefits Committee: This committee has been restructured with Ray Duffy as the chair of the committee with the following faculty members: Frank Galgano, Bijan Mobasseri, Joy Mullane, Catherine Wilson, Peter Zaleski

Old Business


5. Parental leave policy. This topic is coming to the floor of the University Senate at its Friday, April 24th, meeting. All faculty are encouraged to attend.

6. New Provost: We have a new Provost, Dr. Patrick G. Maggitti. The Faculty Congress congratulates and welcomes him to his new position and looks forward to working collaboratively to advance the academic mission of the university.

7. Term limits for governance leadership (Seth Whidden) This matter was brought to a vote at our last meeting. However, we did not have enough to amend the by-laws, so the chair apologizes for bringing a vote to the floor at the last meeting. There is now an electronic
format for Faculty Congress voting on issues like this. An email will go out today to invite members’ votes on the amending of the by-laws on this matter.

8. Resolution on academic freedom (Faculty Congress Executive Committee) At the suggestion of the congress at the last meeting, the chair reviewed the AAUP’s statement on Academic Freedom. This was presented to the congress, along with the proposed resolution. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to approve the resolution, the motion was seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The chair will pass this resolution on to Fr. Donohue, Fr. Ellis and Dean Maggitti. A copy will be posted to the Faculty Congress website and can be found in the appendix of these minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30PM

Respectfully Submitted by
Mark Doorley, FC Secretary

Next Faculty Congress meeting, the Re-organizational meeting: Friday, May 8, 2015, 5-7PM, Seth Whidden’s home in Wayne, PA.

Fall 2015 Faculty Congress meeting schedule (SAC 300, all faculty are invited)
Monday, September 21, 10:30 – Noon
Tuesday, October 20, 1:30 – 3PM
Thursday, November 19, 12 – 1:30PM