

**Commission on Faculty Affairs
Minutes
October 19, 2012**

Members Attending: Joe Merola (Chair), Jack Finney, Brad Klein, Roy Abernathy, Wornie Reed, Velva Groover, Alan Grant, Diane Agud, Matt Chan, John Massey, and Rich Sorensen.

Guest Attending: Elsa Camargo (Higher Education graduate student)

The Commission on Faculty Affairs (CFA) meeting was called to order by Joe Merola, Chair, who distributed the agenda with 6 items.

1. Approval of agenda.
2. Approval of minutes from September 21 2012.
3. Resolution regarding Special Research Faculty - from Commission on Research.
4. Policy 6105: Periodic Review of Academic Deans and Vice Presidents by Jack Finney.
5. Additional items for consideration to this year's discussion.
6. New business.

1. Approval of agenda

The agenda for the meeting was approved for discussion.

2. Approval of Minutes from September 21 2012

The minutes from the last meeting on September 21 2012 were approved without changes.

3. Resolution regarding Special Research Faculty- from Commission on Research

Joe Merola and Jack Finney presented a resolution regarding Special Research Faculty from the Commission on Research. CFA members were briefed on the reasons leading to a proposed name change for Special Research faculty by deleting the word "Special." Discussions have been on going about how to involve research faculty in university governance. The Commission on Research is currently studying the university by-laws and will present suggestions about how to enhance the role of research faculty in the university's governance system.

A motion was made and seconded to support the resolution to change the name of "Special Research Faculty" to "Research Faculty." The commission voted 10 in favor, 0 opposed for the motion. Joe Merola will convey the support of CFA to the Commission on Research.

4. Policy 6105: Periodic Review of Academic Deans and Vice Presidents

Jack Finney briefed CFA members on draft changes to Policy 6105. Marked copies of the proposed draft policy changes and the proposed draft policy were distributed to members for discussion. Finney guided members through a review of the changes, clarifying and explaining the proposed language on the policy.

Members noted that the proposed changes made the policy more inclusive in the evaluation process. It was noted that students are normally not part of the evaluation process except for administrative positions that have greater interaction with students (e.g., Vice President Student Affairs, Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education, Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education).

CFA members made additional suggestions for improving the policy. Finney will make the suggested changes and the next version will be on the CFA meeting agenda for November 2, 2012.

5. Additional Items for consideration to this year's discussion

Finney noted that a policy change would be useful to address disagreements between principal investigators and co-investigators who are working on a joint grant or contract. The current policy addresses removal of a Principal Investigator when funding agencies identify problems and request assistance, but the policy does not address within-university problems. Finney will consult with Bill Knocke and Sam Easterling and draft a revised policy on behalf of CFA.

6. Briefings on relevant Commission or Committee Agendas

- a) CFA members discussed the need to have a representative on Employees Benefits Committee. CFA members approved that Brad Klein represent CFA thereby serving a dual role as a Faculty Senate representative and CFA representative. (Merola proposed the dual service and was asked to identify a representative for CFA; members may not represent more than one constituency.)
- b) Joe Merola informed members that discussion on Intellectual Property Policy is still ongoing.
- c) Alan Grant gave a report from the Commission on University Support about the update of university telephone systems. Members were informed of a website where the schedule for upgrading is detailed.
- d) Members also noted that the university's transition of VT email accounts to a Virginia Tech Google Apps email system.

New Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Recorder, Maxwell Awando