UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT

AAAC
Academic Affairs Advisory Committee

Friday, October 10, 2014
11:00 a.m. – Lapeer Room

~ Minutes ~

Members Present: Ricardo Alfaro, Darryl Baird (Chair), Constance Creech, Chris Douglas, Weiqi Li, Tom Wrobel, and Gerard Voland

Absent: Aviva Dorfman

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Review of Minutes ~ September 26, 2014 ► The minutes of September 26 were approved as amended.

Provost ~ Announcements and Update ► Gerard indicated that he had no new announcements but did indicate that today is the deadline to submit nominations to serve on the Dean Search Committees for CAS and SHPS.

- A question arose regarding the make-up of the search committees and whether the Executive Committee and Management Team members are automatically members of the search committees. Gerard indicated that has not been a practice for any previous dean searches. If they would like to serve they must submit a self-nomination.

- Gerard announced that originally he wanted a sitting dean to serve on each of the dean searches; however, he has changed his mind and there will not be a sitting dean serving. He explained that the decision was made in order to eliminate any concern by the faculty that a sitting dean may sway opinions of the committee. He wants to make sure that everyone feels comfortable and that they are credible searches. He does plan to meet with the Executive Committee and Management Team next week.

- Nursing is concerned with how fast the SHPS search is going with not knowing the status of their school proposal. The Chancellor indicated that she will be making a decision soon but wanted an external opinion before she decides. They felt that they would have a difficult time advocating for a nurse candidate for dean if Nursing would end up not being part of SHPS. Gerard indicated that we are moving forward; he does not want to hire an interim.
Gerard indicated that he shared with the Chancellor the Ann Arbor-approved search firms and guidelines. Also, the Chancellor had some names in mind so he is hopeful that next week one or two names will be narrowed down. He wants to make sure that whomever we select that they have a background in the type of service that we need, i.e. health professions, and they are diligent in recruiting a large pool with in depth vetting procedures. He said that the committees however can begin work prior to the search firms being selected.

**Reports ~ Curriculum Committee**  
Chris indicated that the Curriculum Committee’s first meeting will be held on October 21, so he had nothing to report.

**Reports ~ Faculty Council**  
Tom provided the following report:

- In consideration of the Provost’s request for a Faculty Council member to serve on each of the dean search committees, they have recommended either Suzanne Selig or Hiba Wehbe-Alamah to serve on the SHPS Search and for the CAS Search, the Provost could use his discretion based on balancing the disciplines.

- Considering the request regarding membership on Governing Faculty and the discrepancies between units in terms of the ranks of their governing faculty members, some discussion took place; however, each unit can make decisions regarding their governing faculty as long as it does not violate the current Faculty Code language. Faculty Council considered the discrepancies as a non-issue. Because there seemed to be some thought that SEHS may be making some changes, Sue will contact Dean Barnett and report back to Tom.

- Tom reported that FC had a conversation with Director of HR, Beth Manning, and David Betts, Associate Director of the Office of Institutional Equity regarding concerns of how faculty complaints are handled. He said that they had a number of questions regarding due process, timeline in getting a response back to the faculty member, etc. Beth indicated that she did not have enough information and would be working with Ann Arbor to provide them a response. AAAC would like to receive a copy of the procedure from FC once that is determined.

Much discussion took place regarding the challenges that faculty face with incivility both within the classroom and online. The Committee would like to have a speaker brought to campus to discuss this issue. A decision was made that Gerard, Tom, and Connie would meet with the Director of the Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching to see if a workshop on this topic could be scheduled.

- Tom indicated that FC formulated a response regarding the proposed Curriculog software with questions regarding the overlap of software. They would like a group and/or department to look at the software and weigh in on whether it can provide the kinds of information that faculty would like.
AAAC mentioned that although ITS could provide strengths and weakness, that would not be enough information. A suggestion was made to have the Technology Committee review it. Another suggestion was possibly to see who in Ann Arbor makes those decisions when they arise. Tom indicated that he would relay AAAC’s thoughts to the Chair of FC.

**Statement of Support to Faculty Council on Curriculog Software**
Chair Baird indicated that the AAAC Statement on Curriculog software was not a draft; however, a line was added at the end regarding savings. The Statement was sent to Faculty Council and Krista Hansen.

**Budget Concerns**
Chair Baird indicated that in the future the agenda and handouts will be sent on the Wednesday before the meeting so members have time to read the handouts. Several of the handouts for this meeting included information regarding the budget and a recommendation for a different budget model generated by the CAS Budget Group and Adam Lutzker, Chair of CAC/BSP. Basically the handouts discuss how they feel that the current budget model is a detriment to CAS and recommend that a new budget model be established. Discussion took place regarding the joint meeting that was proposed with FC and AAAC when Vice Chancellor Greg Tewksbury provides a budget presentation, however, that has not worked out. Several options were discussed. A decision was made to invite Adam to the next meeting to provide a summary of the recommendations and to also share what occurred in CAC/BSP’s budget meeting with VC Tewksbury. Following that meeting, Vice Chancellor Tewksbury will be invited to the following meeting on November 14 to provide a presentation to AAAC.

In addition, someone mentioned that some time ago Jerry Glasco was doing some research regarding getting numbers regarding duplications of courses, but no one has seen a report. Chair Baird will contact Jerry to see if that report was finalized and request a copy.

**P & T at UM-Flint**
A question was posed by Jie Song regarding what he thinks is a discrepancy in the Promotion and Tenure Guidelines. The guidelines indicate that an appeal goes to SACUA in Ann Arbor; however, that is not how we handle our appeals here in Flint. The question is who is the body in Flint that reviews appeals? Chair Baird will check with Jie regarding the details of his question.

Much information regarding promotion and tenure was discussed such as external reviewers, two- and four-year reviews, early promotion, etc. Gerard indicated that Jeff Frumkin and General Counsel provided a presentation earlier this year to discuss pertinent issues and answer questions that we had on the Flint campus. Sue will send a copy of the PowerPoint discussed at that meeting to AAAC members for their information.

**Matters Arising**
No items were addressed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.