Faculty Council Meeting Minutes: December 2, 2015

Absent: C. Douglas

The meeting began at 2:30pm

1) The minutes from the Nov. meeting were approved as submitted

2) AAAC Rep. report – AAAC representative indicated nothing to report beyond issues laid out for discussion later in agenda.

CAC/BSP Rep. report – CAC/BSP representative indicated nothing to report as 12/1/15 meeting of CAC/BSP was rescheduled.

3) Agenda for joint meeting between FC/AAAC/CACBSP – L. Alexander suggested asking as to status of Dean searches (timelines, etc.); S. Selig suggested asking Chancellor how enrollment declines are being handled and what steps are being taken in this regard – Also, how are recent administrative appointments contributing/expected to contribute to SEM/retention efforts? H. Wehbe-Alamah suggested asking for clarification on School of Nursing proposal. Three items to be discussed.

4) Potential dates for January Governing Faculty Meeting were considered – Based on this discussion, 3:00 pm on 1/21 or 1/28 to be checked against campus wide events.

   Ideas for Governing Faculty Meeting agenda were discussed in relation to AAAC recommendations concerning online evaluations – What can/should faculty do and what are they doing in order to increase response rates on course evaluations? Importance of considering/reconsidering content of evaluations was considered for discussion. Importance of what data from evaluations is used for/is going to be used for was considered for discussion (i.e., What questions are used for P&T@ the Dept./School/Univ. level?). Student access to evaluation results was considered for discussion. Whether courses with fewer than X students should continue to be excluded from evaluations (confidentiality question) was considered for discussion.

5) Clarification of Faculty Council’s recommendation on faculty membership on administrator search committees: Discussion of which searches FC believed that faculty representation should be robust on ensued – Search committees for positions on the academic side that are above the unit/dean level (e.g., associate provosts) have, in the past, included robust faculty membership. Director level position search committees (e.g., Admissions) have also included faculty. There is a sense on FC that there should be some faculty representation on any/all university-wide (i.e., non-unit bound) search committees.

   A potential norm would be majority faculty composition, with all academic units represented where possible, on search committees for positions within academic affairs whenever the position in question has wide reach across campus. Then, faculty representation on all other searches, where positions with greater academic involvement should have “more” faculty involvement.
6) Academic Assessment Committee’s Charge in Code (Assistant Provost -> Assistant or Associate Provost – ballot to be created and sent out to governing faculty). For discussion at January governing faculty meeting, with ballot to be circulated electronically thereafter.

7) Matters Arising – SHPS rep requested minutes reflect the following: Following November CACBSP rep’s report to FC, which included a statement that the Chancellor had clearly indicated to Nursing leadership that she had communicated her decision to not go forward with Nursing proposal to AA, SHPS rep discussed with nursing leadership, who indicated that there must be a misunderstanding and that Chancellor had shared with Nursing that she was going to appoint an external consultant to review the proposal and that this responsibility was later delegated to interim provost Dixon. Nursing leadership indicated that they were not aware of chancellor statement in relation to not moving SON proposal forward and look forward to more dialogue.

12/16 FC Meeting Discussed – Tentatively cancelled, to be held if something comes up prior to 12/16