

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

M. Baarmand (PSS/5), K. Burke (SAC/4), P. Converse (Psych/5), H. Crawford (CS/4), I. Delgado Perez (COB/4), A. Dutta (COB/5), E. Guisbert (Bio/5), C. Harvey (SBA), A. Huser (Lib/4), M. Kaya (BME/4), V. Kishore (CE/5), S. Kozaitis (Lib/5), B. Lail (ECE/4), M. Lavooy (Psych/5), D. Lelekis (SAC/5), G. Maul (OES/5), S. Murshid (ECE/3), A. Nag (PSS/5), J. Park (DEIS/4), B. Paulillo (Psych/3), L. Perdigao (SAC/5), D. Platt (ESD/4), P. Ray (OES/5), D. Sandall (COB/4), M. Silaghi (CS/5), E. Subasi (ES/5), N. Suksawang (MAE/4), S. Snelson replacing G. Tenali (Math/5), R. van Woesik (Bio/5), R. Wehmschulte (Chem/5), N. Weatherly (SBA/5), A. Welters (Math/5), B. Wheeler (Aero/5), K. Winkelmann (Chem/5), D. Yuran (SAC/5)

3. Reiterating what Pres. Winkelmann sent in an email to senators, he spoke with Provost Baloga about the resolution that was proposed for revising the membership of the university promotions committee. She clarified that she envisioned this being something worth taking our time on, especially since the current promotions committee will become the tenure and promotions committee in the near future. The senate will discuss the formation of a task force for this during New Business.

4. The Provost prepared the policy for Teaching Track faculty and shared it with the Senate Executive committee, which was shared with a few other faculty who had helped with the tenure policy. A few changes were suggested, which the Provost agreed with. That policy was released for faculty review soon after the November Senate meeting and is posted on the Senate website.

5. Tenure update: Tenure decisions are being made for upper-level administrators and deans now. Given that a denial of tenure is potentially embarrassing, these decisions are not made public, although each individual can disclose their status. Dr. Baloga chose not to pursue tenure.

6. The SGA has reached out to Pres. Winkelmann to ask if he could meet with their president Jace Petrowski and/or Jake Genova, SGA's academic affairs chairperson. Pres. Winkelmann has met with Jake twice so far. The SGA has implemented Fix It bicycle repair stations around campus. They want to improve lighting around crosswalks and elevator maintenance in Crawford. They wanted Pres. Winkelmann to ask Senators if there are other ways for students to provide feedback about teaching besides the evaluation forms. They are not sure that faculty read them or consider their ideas.

Sen. Guisbert asked about the tenure roll-out and if it was still on schedule for the rest of the faculty to be evaluated along the original timeline. Pres. Winkelmann said yes, but there has been no announcement about a deadline for faculty to formally make the decision about whether or not they will go up for tenure. Sen. Kozaitis asked if faculty could choose to go up for tenure later if they don't initially choose that path, and Pres. Winkelmann clarified that the policy says that once you are in the teaching track then you can't jump back into the tenure track.

There was a question about titles and it was reiterated that current faculty will not be publicly identified as Teaching Professors (unless they want to be known by that on their webpage); those designations will just be used internally with HR.

Dr. Nesnas asked what was submitted by those currently under consideration for tenure. Pres. Winkelmann said that he assumed that they submitted documents similar to what full professors were asked for, and Sen. Perdigao said that there was no page length specified for the submission and no letters were required.

There was some discussion about the effect of not knowing if the program chair or Dean from your own college is tenured. Some senators questioned whether or not those people should be involved in the decision process since it might cause a conflict of interest. Sen. Baarmand said he thought that those people will probably not stay in that leadership position long term if that's the case, so it won't be an issue.

Sen. Baarmand returned to the point raised by the SGA about faculty evaluations, and asked

be replaced with “rewarded” or “supported” instead, and Pres. Winkelmann said he will bring this up with the Provost before the senate votes on this policy.

A vote was held on the AFTC policy and college level criteria for non-tenure track faculty positions.

Endorse	Do Not Endorse	Abstain
27	3	5

Endorse	Do Not Endorse	Abstain
8	12	15

Endorse	Do Not Endorse	Abstain
11	2	22

Endorse	Do Not Endorse	Abstain
9	1	25

Endorse	Do Not Endorse	Abstain
14	1	20

Endorse	Do Not Endorse	Abstain
9	11	15

** Based on a list of faculty that Pres. Winkelmann received from Office of Institutional Research and the current formula of 1 Senator per 10 department faculty.

There was a discussion of possible ways to reallocate senators but no specific alternative to the current method was proposed. Due to the short amount of time between now and the spring Faculty Senate elections and the challenges of changing the allocation rules in the faculty handbook, Pres. Winkelmann recommended that the Senate not change the allocation method now but leave open the possibility that the Senate could change this in the future.

Nominations for new Academic Policies Chair (and TRI chair)

Marius Silagh was voted the new chair for the TRI committee.

Formation of task force on the composition of the University Promotions Committee
Pres. Winkelmann explained that the Provost is open to proposals for ways to change the committee composition. Sen. Wheeler will be the chair of this task force. There should be representation from each college on this task force, and the proposed purpose is to review the current membership of the committee and look at the membership criteria at other schools for their promotion and tenure committee. The task force should also consider that the structure of the tenure and promotion committee could be copied for the teaching track promotion committee. Contact Sen. Wheeler if you want to join. The work is expected to be completed by the end of the spring semester. They will make a recommendation to the Senate and then it will go to the Provost. Sen. Lail asked if the task force will also look at the college level committees, and Pres. Winkelmann said that they weren't told not to look at that, so if the task force feels like that is a factor then they can think about that too.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lelekis, Faculty Senate Secretary