SENATE COMMITTEE ON FACULTY AFFAIRS  
Minutes for Meeting #4, January 27, 2015  

Members Present:  
Harold Aurand, David Babb, Michael Berube, Blannie Bowen, Thomas Brown, Victor Brunsden, Betty Harper, Rosemary Jolly, Lawrence Kass, Kenneth Keiler, Patricia Koch (C), Angela Linse, Barrie Litzky, Salvatore Marisco, Adam Muchmore, Brad Pinter (VC), Esther Prins, Timothy Pyatt, Eileen Trauth, Wanda Knight  

Members Absent:  
William Curran, Diane Ebken, Gary Gray, William Lasher, Meg Meloy, Rajen Mookerjee, Monica Nachman, Ann Ouyang, Andrew Schulz, Jane Wilburne  

Meeting was called to order by Chair Koch at 8:30 am.  

1. Chair's Report (8:30-8:45)  
   a. Review and Approval of Minutes from 12/9/2014: Vote: Minutes accepted unanimously with minor correction.  
   b. Faculty members to serve on the Consultative Group for AD47. Chair Koch reported that Michael Berube and Barrie Litzky from Faculty Affairs, as well as Phil Sechler from the Law School, were contacted and agreed to serve on this important committee.  
   c. Report from January 26th Officers and Chairs Meeting: This meeting was cancelled due to weather.  

2. Subcommittee Meetings (8:45-9:30): Continued discussion and work on the following tasks:  
   a. Faculty Development (FacDev): Teaching Workload Policies (A3), Review of Emeritus Policy HR25 (B1), Review of Evaluation of Faculty Teaching (B3)  
   b. Faculty Rights & Privacy Issues (FRPI): Protection of Faculty during Budgetary Contractions (A2), Review of Conflict of Commitment Policy AD77 (A4), and new charge concerning issues regarding faculty contracts as presented in the Ruiz Contact Resolution.  

3. Break (9:30-9:45)  

4. Full Committee Meeting (9:45-11:00): Reports from subcommittees and full committee discussion.  

Update from FRPI: From Chair, Adam Muchmore  

Regarding the Ruiz motion charge, Senator Muchmore reported that their investigations suggested that the problem described in the motion may be limited to one department at Harrisburg, and thus, the Harrisburg Faculty Senate might be the more appropriate group to
address the issue of procedural irregularities in teaching overload contracts. It was noted that the administrator involved with issuing these contracts has now left and that this may settle the problem. Further, such issues may be better addressed by a unit’s ombudsperson than by taking them to the floor of Faculty Senate. The full Faculty Affairs committee was in agreement with all of these points. Thus, the subcommittee will be sending a response draft informational report for full committee review and approval this week. Care in the tone of the report will be taken. (Note: the draft of the report sent to committee members via email was supported).

Regarding the charge addressing AD-77 Engaging in Outside Professional Activities (Conflict of Commitment) Policy, Subcommittee Chair Muchmore reported that the forthcoming draft for the advisory/consultative report will encourage units to develop specific policies to delineate unit-informed rules for “other activities,” perhaps using the Smeal guidelines as a starting point. Such guidelines should focus on wording about limiting activities that would significantly impinge on one’s University responsibilities and not on trying to delineate specific activities. The policy should also recognize the importance of academic freedom (AD-64), including a faculty member’s right to criticize the University.

**Update from Faculty Development:** From Co-Chair Angela Linse

Regarding the Teaching Workload policies charge, Senator Linse reported that the subcommittee’s investigations showed that presently it is impossible to compare teaching workloads because different units use different metrics and aggregation methods for reporting workloads. The subcommittee will circulate a draft for an informational report for full committee consideration.

Regarding the Evaluation of Faculty Teaching charge, the subcommittee reported that they plan to prepare a draft of an informational report for full committee consideration, which would be followed next year with a Senate forensic session on these matters.

**Update from PTAL:** From Chair Victor Brunsden

Due to lack of remaining time, the subcommittee will provide a report at our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Brad Pinter