

Minutes

Faculty Standards Committee of the University Senate

Monday, September 11, 2023 (2:00 – 3:30 PM, SU 320)

Present: Burkey, Agocha, Amalaradjou, Artigas, Herd, Holle, Jockusch, Lee, Magley, Kersaint, Richardson, Rosenberg.

Absent: McCoach (Sabbatical), McManus

Meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM in Student Union 320.

The 2022 FSC report was circulated prior to the meeting to inform new members of what activities the committee had been engaged with in the previous year. Additionally, a copy of the SET+ recommendations from the SET+ Task Force was shared ahead of time for discussion.

SET+ Discussion:

There was general agreement that the changing of the name from Student Evaluation of Teaching to Student Experience of Teaching was reasonable and that it reflected and emphasized the subjective nature of instrument. Additional discussion by the group revolved around the additional recommendations included in the report and how best to disseminate and implement some of the suggestions. There are still elements of the SET+ evaluation that potentially resemble post-tenure review, and it was suggested that there may be pushback on this from both faculty and AAUP, despite the need for evaluation beyond the SET being an AAUP contract requirement.

There was also discussion around where responsibility lies for ensuring the required review happens. Part of the challenge so far has been perceived to be a lack of clear responsibility for carrying out the activities – is it the department, the individual, the school? It was reemphasized that while CETL can assist in training and best practices for evaluating teaching, it can not be the organization responsible for conducting these evaluations. It was suggested that a departmental committee, similar to the undergraduate committee, graduate committee, or PTR committee, could be developed to oversee these activities and also credit those participating for the labor involved. Future actions on this are continued discussion of implementation strategy as well as potentially a draft resolution to the Senate on the name change for the SET.

Faculty Workload Revision Policy:

At the final spring 2023 meeting the FSC committee decided that it would take up the issue of faculty workload during major life events in the fall term. VPAA Kersaint was asked to provide an update to internal discussions on this topic to the group, based on the FSC action as well as a letter sent by faculty to the administration in the Spring 2023 term.

VPAA Kersaint provided a brief summary of the history of the issue as well as an overview of the internal discussion that had taken place to this point, involving the Provost's Office, Counsel's Office, Human Resources, and AAUP. Full details could not be shared due to the ongoing nature

of some of the discussions, but it was shared that a new policy was forthcoming and it has been based in part on the existing policy in place in CLAS. Discussion of this topic will be ongoing.

Future Chair Opportunities:

Burkey noted that after this AY, he will have served two terms as chair of FSC and will also be Wymanized for the 24-25 AY, so if there were any current members of the committee who would be interested in chairing next AY to please let him know.

Motion to adjourn was made by Senator Agocha at 3:18 PM, seconded by Senator Holle.