

10-3-08 Faculty Senate Minutes 3:01p

Attendance: P. Cashel-Cordo, Chad Tew, Marlene Shaw, Bob Harper, Kent Scheller, Vella Goebel, L. Bennett (Provost), B. Posler (Vice-Provost), L. Cagle (Faculty Chair), Marie Opatrny, Manfen Chen (visitor), Todd Schroer, Mellisa Hall (recording secretary).

Minute Approval:

May 7, 2007 Changes: None. Minutes accepted.

August 27, 2008 – Fall Retreat - Minutes accepted with suggested changes.

Sept. 26, 2008 Deferred approval until further review.

Old Business: Motion to accept proposed faculty handbook language to change tenure-eligible contracts from annual to multi-year (C. Tew). Seconded (K. Scheller). Motion passed.

Announcements:

Topic	Discussion	Decision
Assessment Committee	Current charges to committee possibly too broad. CHARGE: Draft a comprehensive report of assessment practices on campus. (Motions: K. Scheller) P. Cashel-Cordo (seconded).	Motion Passed.
Medical Withdrawal Following Final Grade Assignment	CHARGE: Review and make changes regarding medical withdrawal process (T. Schroer) (V. Goebel, seconded): to Faculty Affairs. K. Scheller to work on charge to present to Faculty Senate for grade changes w/o faculty knowledge.	Motion Passed
Fresh Start Program	CHARGE: Review and make recommended changes for Fresh Start Program: to Faculty Affairs (Motion: V. Goebel), (Seconded: B. Hooper)	Motion Passed
Academic Grievance	CHARGE: Develop clear guidelines for students seeking grade appeals, distinguishing such appeals from the academic grievance process; to Faculty Affairs. (Motion: M. Opatrny) (P. Cashel-Cordo)	Motion Passed.

Summer School Calendar and Summer Salaries	Post-pone for summer work group to evaluate.	Committee will be made up of representative from all colleges, Graduate Studies, University Division, and Faculty Senate (V. Goebel).
Faculty Senate Composition to include faculty from Rice Library.	Librarians currently eligible for At-Large positions on Senate.	L. Cagle to poll librarians regarding their interest in Faculty Senate representation in addition to what is currently available to them.
Article 11 Section IV: Power to review and interpret.	Information about existing policy on domestic partnership not provided from Human Resources when faculty senator requested definition of USI policy.	Dr. Bennett to review.
Ombuds Report	<p>Discussion: Ombuds representative to report to Senate annually about faculty concerns that were not submitted as formal charge.</p> <p>Vote: Change of handbook to adopt faculty Ombuds position for this particular issue.</p> <p>Motion: CHARGE Faculty Affairs with Review and make recommendations regarding the creation of a faculty Ombuds position (K. Scheller), (C. Tew, seconded).</p>	<p>Motion not passed.</p> <p>Motion passed.</p>
Informal Resolutions to Constitution	CHARGE: Review and make recommendations regarding possibility for addition of informal resolution to USI constitution: (to faculty Affairs Committee) (C. Tew), (P. Cashel-Cordo, seconded).	Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned: 5:00p Next scheduled meeting Oct. 24, 2008.