

Minutes of the CHASS Faculty Meeting 4/6/05 (draft)

1. Dean Linda Brady called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. She indicated that this meeting was scheduled at a time thought to be most appropriate for faculty to meet.
2. The Dean discussed the EPA/SPA Awards for Excellence Luncheon which was held earlier in the day in the Caldwell Lounge. She noted the EPA winner was Neil Hutcheson and the SPA winner was Smith Young. Both winners will be recognized at the University EPA/SPA Awards for Excellence Luncheon on May 25, 2005 at 11:15 at the McKimmon Center.
3. The minutes from the October 27, 2004 meeting were approved as written.
4. Committee reports were received as follows:
 - a. Academic Life: no report.
 - b. Curriculum Committee: Randy Thomson reported that the committee continues to review course actions and that there currently are a number of degree program proposals in various stages of the approval process.
 - c. Graduate Studies: no report.
 - d. Research Committee: Matt Zingraff reported that this was the first year award winners could choose a summer stipend or use the money toward research.
 - e. International Studies: Laura Severin reported that the BA in International Studies will come on-line Fall 2005. The committee has approved Study Abroad trips to Ireland, Egypt and China.
 - f. RPT Committee: Doug Jesseph reported there were no major problems with this year's process, considering the number of cases. He noted that there were 14 reappointment cases which will all be coming back through for tenure review in the next few years.
 - g. Monica Leach discussed the Task Force on Diversity. The Task Force is comprised of one faculty member from each department in the College. She reminded the group of an upcoming event, "A Conversation on Diversity," which will be held at the JC Raulston Arboretum on April 19, 2005. She encouraged everyone to register and said that the first 25 faculty to register will receive a \$100 book stipend.
5. Dean's Report:
 - a. Dean Brady noted that an important challenge in a college this size is communication between the Dean and faculty, staff and students. She would like to establish a Faculty Advisory Board, which would serve as a means to discuss new ideas, initiatives, and critical issues related to GER, enrollment, academic freedom, development and compensation. Other efforts to enhance communication include:
 - i. The Monday Morning Minute was instituted in August 2004 and has received positive feedback as an effective means of email communication between the Dean and faculty and staff. Dean Brady asked that you please submit the online survey that is attached to each Monday Morning Minute email. She noted the MMM will be suspended during the summer months.

- ii. The SPA Advisory Board was established to provide a forum for staff to discuss issues or concerns with the Dean. In turn, the Dean has an opportunity to share information on College and University matters pertinent to staff. The SPA Advisory Board meets once per semester.
 - iii. The Student Advisory Board was established to provide student input on important College decisions, share ideas with the Dean, and relay student needs. The Board consists of one student representative from each department and meets once per semester. The group recently met and a topic of discussion involved the current drop policy. This group of students agreed that 6 weeks into the semester is too long to wait to drop a course.
- 6. There was a discussion re: the status of the CHASS Constitution and the Faculty Council. The group decided to table the discussion indefinitely.
- 7. Update on Academic Freedom, Cat Warren: Professor Warren reported that there is a group trying to pass a bill that would require every reading list and course syllabus to contain balanced political views. She added that scientists on campus have become increasingly concerned about some of the policies that are in the works. Dean Brady thanked Cat for her continued work on this important issue.
- 8. Update on Faculty Senate, Dennis Daley: The Faculty Senate has been involved in discussions re: the Design School's proposal to build a pavilion in the Court of Carolina. The Senate has been involved in supporting the Libraries' efforts to set the prices of Elsevier journals. The Senate has also been attending meetings re: the State Health Plan benefits.
- 9. Faculty Senate elections, Carolyn Miller: Professor Miller encouraged the group to run and/or nominate colleagues and to get involved in the Faculty Senate or the grievance panel. She added that the senate meets once every other week and any subcommittees meet in the alternate weeks.
- 10. Update on School of Public and International Affairs, Jim Svara: Professor Svara said that the restructuring would help enhance visibility of programs and build partnerships within CHASS as well as with outside entities. He noted that he doesn't anticipate the need for additional resources for the restructuring but hopes that the restructuring will generate additional resources. He added that other universities that have moved in the direction of a School of Public and International Affairs have been very successful, especially in terms of recruiting faculty and students. CHASS hopes to launch the School on July 1, 2006.
- 11. Update on GER Revision, Laura Severin: Dean Severin reported that this is a 10-year review and the committee is focused on looking at student learning outcomes. She plans to visit every department re: the general values that CHASS faculty would like to see students achieve. She said there needs to be an evaluation of the GER courses and is hoping to gather the information this year and begin working on a model next year.

Respectfully submitted,
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