CLAS Faculty Council minutes – 10 February 2010

Members present: Susan deFrance, Susan Hegeman, Jean Larson (Chair), Carol Murphy, Paul Robinson, Clive Wynne, John Yelton, Rick Yost

Members absent: Nora Alter, Howard Louthan, Richard Scher, Don Stehouwer
Ex-officio members present: Monika Ardelt, John Leavey
Student members absent: Amber Van Matre, LaRae Scantling

The meeting was called to order at 8:35am.

(1) Minutes of the 20 January meeting were unanimously approved.

(2) The schedule for spring Faculty Council meetings was approved, modulo the possibility of dropping the proposed 31 March meeting.

(3) Summer funding. The Dean’s summer faculty salary plans were discussed. Council members saw no reason to reduce teaching salaries, as summer teaching is no less demanding than teaching in fall or spring. Specifically, council members felt that the current rate (12.5% of salary per course) should be continued. If the Dean were to opt for a flat-rate model, members felt that such a rate should be indexed (for example, to nine-month salaries).

   It was decided that we should request additional data from Kimberly, with a breakdown of summer teaching numbers by rank (including full/associate/assistant professor and lecturer).

(4) This discussion raised other issues: (a) the matter of graduate student summer research credits (in particular, the fact that faculty members supervise such graduate students without recompense, even when not on summer contracts); (b) more generally, the question of how the approximately $10M summer budget is handled.

(5) Tenure and Promotion. The Council noted with some concern the T&P Committee Report to the 22 January College Assembly, to the effect that ten out of forty-four cases were not supported by the committee. This was a sharp increase: based on recent years, perhaps two or three rejections might have been expected. Council members were particularly interested to know how many of the unsupported cases involved faculty being considered for tenure. It was proposed that T&P guidelines (amounting to College policy) should be discussed by faculty.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Robinson.