

November 17th, 2010

Minutes

Present: Kelli McAllister (Chair, VP Academic), Yun Li (LSS President, ex-officio), Dave Peltier, Kate Phipps, Eric Gauf (Secretary), Kyle Johnson, Graham Hardy, Anthony Oliver, Brian Badali, Aimee Schalles, Emily McKinnon, Joe Scafe, Sara Hopkins (delayed)(LSS Ombudsperson, ex-officio), Shirley Smiley (delayed), Liz Edinger (Guest), Janine Benedette (Guest)

Absent: Kyle Johnson

Meeting called to order at 12:35

1. Committee Updates:
 - a. AMS :
 - i. (Kate) There is an ongoing Ombuds investigation into AMS President Bijan Ahmadian and lobbying with two voices on the land-use plan
 - b. Building Committee:
 - i. (Eric) There will be environmental signage stakeholder meetings at some point shortly, will be looking for input from additional AIC members
 - c. Strategic Committee:
 - i. (Eric) Final draft of the Strategic Plan is to be presented at Faculty Council on Thursday.
 - d. Curriculum Committee:
 - i. (Aimee) Discussed the LLM (CL) changes, details in faculty council package
 - ii. (Anthony) David Duff presented on possibility of changing to a per-credit fee system. Presentation phrased as solving issues for part-time students. Fairly massive change, long process.
 - iii. (Anthony in response to Kate) A per-credit system would also enable a fuller summer program.
 - iv. (Anthony in response to Dave) Any impact on early graduation was not discussed this time.
 - v. (Anthony) Discussed issue of any impact on tuition - at this point, no planned impact / would have to respect the 2% cap.

Updates suspended in favour of professorship issue, guests Professors Edinger and Benedette

2. Instructorship Memo:
 - a. Presentation from Janine Benedette and Liz Edinger:
 - i. (Janine) Summary of background of shift in hiring practices to have several people on temporary one-year contracts, slow shift to several individuals holding perpetual one-year contracts, no job security, but becoming increasingly part of the community, etc.

- ii. Looked into possibility of hiring as an instructor (teaching tenure position), but ran into issues
- iii. Rethinking the instructorship position, saw a need for way to provide job security for teaching-focused colleagues.
- iv. (Liz) committee was struck in part to address concern raised when the hiring process failed in that there was no faculty policy on the issue.

b. Discussion:

- i. (Aimee) Question about potential for near-future action given budget situation, hired-in-advance-of-vacancy professors
 - 1. (Janine and Liz) No specific answer possible, but Aimee's impression is substantially correct.
- ii. (Kate) Statement that memo is strong from perspective of students, ongoing concerns re: instructors given quality of teaching and changes in personnel the last two years.
- iii. (Eric) Offered thoughts to the effect that might be potential for near-future action if transition involves a currently-contracted individual?
 - 1. (Liz) Re: the faculty budget process: summary is that effectively, there is potential both for the faculty to undertake such internal reorganization or to lobby the central administration, but the issue is choosing to do so / priorities
- iv. (Dave) Re: discussion of requirements for instructors, request for thoughts from the committee
 - 1. (Janine) Current matrix shows that an instructorship would require a PhD, but that's not even the requirement level for the assistant professor level in Law. Discussed, no satisfactory conclusion, no global standard, but there is in many ways a need for flexibility.
 - 2. (Liz) prior interpretation was "LLM or equivalent" with equivalent being years of relevant practice, but that interpretation has not been accepted recently.
 - 3. (Dave) comments re: value of practical experience
- v. (Eric) Question re: potential going forward for the instructorship category and future clinical learning programs?
 - 1. (Janine) That was part of the thinking was in this direction, currently creating a category for clinical education specialists would require significant negotiation with the university, and

c. Guests thanked for presentation, departed.

3. Further Committee Updates:

a. National business law center

- i. (Kelli) NCBL is looking for feedback on speaker series - potential for 1-2 week intensive courses (course structured around the professor but filling a full year slot?)
- ii. Discussion:
 - 1. (Dave) A good idea, perhaps not his personal interest but a very interesting idea.
 - 2. (Eric) As part of a full-year program, this would be very interesting, currently being done informally within other areas as well, but could be

that the NCBL could pioneer this more formally, might be followed by other concentrations at the school.

3. (Anthony) This may possibly be a better format than the current speaker's series, as it would allow better understanding of complex ideas.
 - iii. (Emily) NCBL 1st agenda item next time is about the various forms of business concentrations.
 - b. Equity:
 - i. (Sara) Equity met Monday for the first time, revising the foundational statement of the committee - looking for the LSS version, feedback - Sara's view is proactive, and that the focus should be on students / community / environment.
 - c. Strategic Committee
 - i. (Eric) Again from strategic committee - if committee is defining role, please participate, bring thoughts to AIC, this year the faculty is trying to actually sort out which committee does what in an exercise of attempting to reduce bureaucratic overlap and improve communication.
4. Other Business:
- a. (Kelli) Reminder of faculty council tomorrow, 1Ls should attend, in part because we need to do introductions.

1:28 Meeting Adjourned