

Faculty Issues Meeting, Feb. 9 2010
Absent: Laura LaRue and Candace Small

Prior to the official beginning (on time, at 3:30), Teresa revealed that she will be teaching in Paris during March. Her substitute will be Jim Newman.

The meeting was called to order, and a motion was made and passed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

The first item on the agenda was a review of the edited version of the motion regarding annual evaluations of faculty. Before serious editing began, a brief discussion ensued on the desirability of sending the motion to Provost Minner prior to bringing it to the Senate. Kim indicated that following approval of the motion, she would email a copy and invite him to comment on it.

Review and revision of the motion followed. The implications of saying "shall" versus "should" were discussed, along with use of the phrase "it is recommended." In most cases, it was determined that "shall" was appropriate and consistent with the intention of the handbook. The motion was retyped, read aloud, and approved by unanimous vote.

While the motion was being retyped, Kim reported on her discussion with Joey Sword about tuition waivers for retired faculty. Joey indicated that the retired faculty are not eligible for tuition waivers and the policy is a Radford University policy. There was some question about what the written policy says and who exactly formulated it – Kim plans to get a copy of the existing policy for the committee.

The next item brought up was a report from Kim in her role as liaison to the Intellectual Property committee. That committee is preparing a revision to rules regarding Intellectual Property which will specifically address things that are in electronic form and involve campus resources – the example given was online courses. The direction that the IP committee seems to be taking is that if something is created using university resources, elements of that product may not belong to the person who created it. The platform for an online course, for example, would not belong to the professor who created it; the content, however, would. There was some discussion about this but no action was taken.

The last item brought up was a motion from the Resource Allocation Committee regarding faculty raises. Kim had prepared copies of this for all of us. After reading it and some discussion of its meaning, implications and the work of the RAC, a motion was made to support their motion with an amendment that would praise and thank that committee for their work on this issue.

At this point, Kim observed that we had completed all the items on the agenda and the meeting was adjourned at 4:35.