

Faculty Senate Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2015

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Martha Muller (Chair), Melinda Tinkle (Vice-Chair), Kimberly Gauderman, Lee Brown, Charles Cunningham

Ex-Officio: Leslie Morrison, Vice-Chancellor, HSC, Vivian Valencia, University Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Kimberly Bell, Deputy University Counsel, University Counsel Office

Members Absent: Joseph Barbour, and Carol Parker Associate Provost, Office of the Provost & EVP for Academic Affairs

Staff Present: Candyce Torres, Office of the Secretary, Administrative Coordinator
Carol Stephens, Office of the Secretary, Professional Consultant

Guest Present: John Trotter, Vice Chancellor Emeritus, HSC

Meeting began at 3:30pm

1. The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate Policy Committee was called to order at 3:30PM on Wednesday November 5, 2014 in Scholes Hall, Room 101 with Chair, Martha Muller.
2. **E60: Sponsored Research.** E60 will go out for 30-day campus comment in March 2015 or earlier if possible.
3. **C200 Sabbatical Leave.** This draft was revised to include changes agreed to at the December meeting which were highlighted in the Procedures and Guidelines Section, number 4.

Action- Include “such as” in the following statement after the word “arrangements”: *With the department chair’s permission sabbatical applications may be submitted 18 months (or three semesters) in advance of the proposed sabbatical leave in order to provide applicants with sufficient time to make academic and personal arrangements, fellowship support, obtain visiting faculty status at a host institution, enable family members to accompany the applicant.*

C200 will go out for 30-day campus comment in March 2015 or earlier if possible.

4. **Policies A91 and Standard A91#1 RE: Creation, Review, Reorganization, and Termination of Non-HSC Research Centers and Institutes.** Trotter indicated that with respect to the Policy Statement, he proposes to include the *HSC Council and Research Strategic Planning Committee* in the list of approvers for the creation/major changes of new/existing research centers or institutes. Tinkle is in favor of leaving the language as it is currently stated. Brown confirmed that he agreed with Tinkle. Stephens recommended including Trotter's proposal in the Standard A91 HSC document.

Action- Remove "*sought and*" from the following sentence and include the word "*permanent*" before the word "*major*": *Approval of the proposed action must be sought and obtained prior to initiating operation of a new research center or institute, or making major changes to an existing research center or institute.*

Action- Remove "*sought and*" from the following statement: *However, it is expected that even in the case of experimental changes, stakeholders, such as affected faculty, staff, and students will be informed in advance and their input sought and considered by the appropriate dean, director, or other administrator proposing the changes, prior to initiation.*

Action- Under Definitions insert, "*on a temporary basis*" before the following statement after Major Actions: *Major actions. A merger of two or more research centers or institutes, a division or dissolution of a research center or institute, or a change in the basic mission of a research center or Institute.*

Action- A91 was passed unanimously with the approval of the changes referenced by the Committee. A91 will go out for campus comment.

A53: Development and Approval of Faculty Policies. Valencia informed the FS Policy Committee that A53 gives reference to AF&T and the FS Research Policy Committee when it should not. Valencia clarified that AF&T policies (Section B) do not follow the protocol listed in Policy A53; therefore, it should not apply to both the Research Policy Committee and AF&T. Valencia requested that the FS Policy Committee consider removing the FS Research Policy Committee and the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee from **A53**.

Tinkle recommended adding and linking the HSC policy on policies document so that it can be referenced under the Related Documents section.

Cunningham expressed concern about the current title of **A53** with respect to this request. His concern is that with the removal of AF&T, and FS Research Policy Committee, because the umbrella would then no longer consist of all faculty policies. For example, Section B of the Faculty Handbook consists of faculty policies that are solely reviewed by AF&T. Valencia and Stephens will look at working on the title change.

Action- The body of the document **A53** was approved by unanimous vote with the caveat that Valencia and Stephens will do some research to develop an appropriate title.

A53 will go out for 30-day campus comment in March 2015 or earlier if possible.

UAP Policy 2035 “Political Activity. The President of the Faculty Senate has asked the FS Policy Committee to review Policy 2035 in its entirety, not just the proposed changes to determine if it violates freedom of speech from a faculty perspective. Regarding action at this current moment, Valencia recommended providing written feedback regarding their analysis of this policy to the Policy Office.