

Winthrop University Faculty Conference
18 August 2017
2:00 p.m., Plowden Auditorium

Agenda

- I. Approval of Minutes for April 14, 2017 Faculty Conference (*Minutes to Follow*)
- II. Report from the Chair Michael Lipscomb
 - a. Remarks and Introduction of Secretary and Parliamentarian
 - b. Recognition of Faculty Members Promoted and/or Tenured
 - c. Report from June 10, 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting
- III. Report from the President Dan Mahony
- IV. Report from the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Debra Boyd
- V. Academic Council (*Supporting Material to Follow*) Jo Koster
- VI. Committee Reports Michael Lipscomb
 - a. Introduction of Standing Committee Chairs (2016-2017)
 - b. Committee Reports
 - i. Rules Committee Andrew Besmer
- VII. SACSCOC 5th Year Interim Report Karen Jones
- VIII. Office of Computing and Information Technology Patrice Bruneau
- IX. Registrar, Office of Records and Registration Gina Jones
- X. Unfinished Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Announcements
- XIII. Adjournment

Faculty Conference Membership (333) 35%= 117 20%=67

(Celebratory Refreshments to Follow Meeting)

Winthrop University Faculty Conference Minutes, April 14, 2017

2 p.m., Dina's Place, DiGiorgio Student Center

- I. Approval of Minutes for February 24 Meeting.** At this time there was a motion to conduct business without a quorum. That motion passed. The faculty then voted to approve the minutes from the February 24 Faculty Conference.

- II. Faculty Conference Chair's Report: Dr. John Bird**
 - a. Dr. Bird thanked the faculty leadership for attending board of trustees meetings and asked for any questions for the board to share at their June meeting.
 - b. Dr. Bird thanked Dr. Tara Collins for serving as Parliamentarian of Faculty Conference and thanked Dr. Ginger Williams for serving as Secretary for the 2016-17 academic year. Dr. Bird thanked Mr. Tim Drueke for working with faculty conference and also thanked President Mahony and Provost Boyd for their cooperation.

- III. Report from the President: Dr. Dan Mahony (Provost Debra Boyd gave his report in his absence)**
 - a. Dr. Boyd reported on the state budget regarding Winthrop University. The SC House of Representatives requested zero dollars for higher education recurring dollars; the Senate requested 330,000.00 for new recurring dollars for Winthrop. The legislature also requested \$10 million for Winthrop in non-recurring bond bills. With regard to pensions, the legislature will increase the rates from employees and employers beginning on July 1. A proposal that each employee making less than \$50,000.00 receive a one-time \$500 bonus from the State is unlikely to happen. Dr. Boyd reported that it was highly unlikely that employees would see any state salary increases for the upcoming year.
 - b. Competitive Compensation: The general plan is to continue to distribute available funds for salary increases in order to get more people in line with the median salaries for rank and position. Details will be available later in the fiscal year. Because of the complicated nature of many staff positions, we need a compensation and classification study for staff members as a part of our longer-term compensation plan.
 - c. Dr. Boyd reported that currently there were twenty-four vacant positions at Winthrop, and she asked that we view the Winthrop website for these positions.

d. Dr. Boyd reported that the SACS Fifth-Year Report was submitted on time and results will be available later in the summer.

e. Dr. Boyd reported that her office was examining models for the evaluation of institutional administrators, including Vice Presidents and the President, by faculty and staff at large.

f. Tenure letters were distributed last week, and promotion letters will go out next week. Dr. Boyd read the names of people who had been granted tenure this past year. Those people are: Dr. Kristen Abernathy, Mathematics; Dr. Leslie Bickford, English; Dr. Nathaniel Frederick, Mass Communication; Dr. Scott Shinabargar, World Languages; Dr. Pamela Wash, Education; and Dr. Douglas Pressley, Music.

g. Dr. Boyd also announced the Faculty Awards for this year: Distinguished Professor, Dr. John Bird; Outstanding Junior Professor, Dr. Adam Glover; LaRoche Award for Outstanding Graduate Instruction, Dr. Siobhan Brownson.

h. Dr. Boyd thanked everyone for their hard work during the academic year, 2016- 2017.

IV. Academic Council: Dr. Dave Pretty

- a. Dr. Pretty reported that there was one program change that needed to be approved by Faculty Conference. This change involved the BS- DIFD-INMD program, and it involved removing DIFD 351 and adding VCOM 578. The proposal passed unanimously without discussion.
- b. There were fourteen proposed curriculum changes that did not require a vote from the Faculty Conference.
- c. There were 166 course proposals approved by CUC and none required further action.
- d. General Education Committee: Dr. Pretty reviewed the list of courses that required a vote and recertifications that required no vote.
- e. Dr. Pretty presented a policy change for the Committee on Petitions, which required a vote. The change was passed unanimously.
- f. Dr. Pretty presented a revision of requirements for the natural science requirement. The revision was approved but with some opposition.
- g. Historical Perspectives: Dr. Pretty presented language changes to the historical perspectives requirement that were approved by Academic Council. The language changes were approved by faculty conference.
- h. Report on the Honor Code: Academic Council requests Faculty Conference to appoint a committee to implement the proposal for an Honor Code. Academic Council requests a new standing committee on Academic Integrity. This proposal was voted on and approved.
- i. Dr. Pretty reported that Dr. Jo Koster was elected to chair Academic Council for the 2017-2018 academic year.

V. Committee Reports: The following standing committee chairs gave their year-end reports to the faculty. These reports can be found online at:

- a. Rules Committee: Dr. Andrew Besmer
- b. Library: Dr. Phillip Gibson
- c. Faculty Personnel: Dr. Lou Pantuosco
- d. Academic Freedom and Tenure: Dr. Carol Marchel
- e. Financial Exigency: Dr. Dave Pretty
- f. Academic Conduct: Dr. Laura Ullrich
- g. Undergraduate Petitions: Dr. Jane Thomas
- h. Undergraduate Curriculum: Dr. Will Thacker
- i. Faculty Committee on University Priorities: Dr. Ron Parks
- j. Faculty Committee on University Life: Dr. Keith Benson

VI. Proposed Changes to Bylaws: Dr. Andrew Besmer

- a. Dr. Besmer presented three bylaws changes regarding 1) a prohibition from serving on personnel committees at various levels; 2) matching the language of the curriculum action process to the bylaws; and 3) the charge of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. These proposed changes were attached to the agenda. All of the changes were approved.

VII. GLI Impact Report: Dr. Meg Webber

- a. Dr. Webber presented the final Global Learning Initiative Report and thanked the faculty for their support of the GLI.

VIII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

IX. New Business:

- a. Dean Karen Kedrowski thanked Dr. Maria Aysa-Lastra for her work on the Campus Climate Survey and encouraged the faculty to encourage students to fill out the survey.
- b. Dr. Michael Lipscomb presented a resolution acknowledging Dr. John Bird's commitment and dedication to the faculty for serving two terms as Faculty Conference Chair. The resolution passed enthusiastically.
- c. Dr. John Bird gave closing remarks as chair of Faculty Conference.

X. Announcements:

- a. Registrar's Reminders: Ms. Gina Jones, Registrar. Ms. Jones reminded us all to turn in our grades on time and went over the specific days and times for all grades.
- b. Other Announcements: Dr. Antje Mays
Dr. Mays reported that the regalia closet project is going well and asked for more donations.
- c. Dr. Gloria Jones, Dean of University College, reported that next Friday was the deadline for the Winthrop Writing Residency.
- d. Dr. Robin Lammi reported that the Winthrop SOURCE conference would take place next Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. She encouraged all faculty to attend.
- e. Dr. Chad Dresbach reported that next Thursday would be the VISCOM senior show and invited all to attend.

XI. Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Suggested Action from the Honor Code and Honor Pledge Subcommittee of Academic Council

The Honor Code and Honor Pledge Subcommittee of Academic Council met on April 4th, 2017, to discuss possible recommendations for implementing the Honor Code and Honor Pledge approved by Academic Council last year (in September 2015). The subcommittee members included faculty members Alice Burmeister, Marguerite Doman, and Kristen Abernathy, as well as Beth West (CSL President), and Bethany Marlowe (ex-officio). Dr. Abernathy was unable to attend the meeting, but was sent a copy of this report and gave her approval of its content. While brainstorming possible strategies for implementing the Honor Code and Honor Pledge, the subcommittee members came to the conclusion that implementing either an Honor Code and/or an Honor Pledge on its own, without the development of accompanying initiatives designed to support their implementation, would not be sufficient to create an expectation of academic integrity across the campus community. We therefore recommend the creation of a Standing Committee on Academic Integrity under the authority of Faculty Conference to consider the implementation of an Honor Code and/or Honor Pledge, in addition to related supporting activities of the kind described in the proposal below.

Proposal to create a Standing Committee on Academic Integrity, under the authority of Faculty Conference:

We propose the creation of a Standing Committee on Academic Integrity, to be made up of the following individuals: One faculty member from each of the four colleges (Arts & Sciences, Business

Administration, Education, and Visual and Performing Arts) and a faculty member from Dacus Library; the Dean of Students (ex-officio); and the President of the Council of Student Leaders.

The charge of this standing committee would be to propose and develop initiatives designed to help create and maintain an expectation of academic integrity in the Winthrop University community. This would include: 1). Evaluating the effectiveness of university policies and current practices related to academic integrity, and proposing changes and improvements to these practices/policies where needed; 2). Developing training sessions and other support resources for full-time and adjunct faculty members to assist them in dealing with the challenges of maintaining standards of academic integrity for our current generation of millennial digital native students, as well as for themselves as scholars and educators; and 3). Developing training sessions and support resources for students to help them understand what academic integrity is and why it is important. In particular, students will be encouraged to understand how honoring Winthrop's standards of academic integrity will help them to be more successful, both as Winthrop students, and in their future lives after graduation.