

Faculty Council Minutes
April 9, 2008

Present: Brown, Carusi, Danford (recorder-in-turn), Kipp, Miller (chair), Sibicky

1. Minutes approved from meeting of 4/2/08.
2. Council discussed early distribution of materials for committee preferences for 2008-2009. Miller will work with Thayer to have these sent out to faculty and Council will arrange a meeting to make initial assignments before the end of May.
3. Carusi shared a desire on the part of some faculty to have a system in place for informing campus of matters relating to the College before such matters are announced in local media outlets. Miller will discuss with Tom Perry a policy for sharing blanket press releases with faculty before they reach media outlets.
4. Council continued discussion of proposed revisions to RTP policies and practices for tenure and promotion, in advance of discussion at upcoming faculty meetings. Miller reported that Spilatro, speaking for RTP, indicated the intention of RTP that the proposed changes be incorporated in the blue pages of the Faculty Handbook. It was also reported that the PA program expressed concern over the scheduled time for the May faculty meeting at which final vote on the proposed revisions will be held. (The meeting is scheduled for the Monday of exam week at 1 pm, but PA does not follow the exam week schedule.) Kipp reported that faculty in PA and Athletic Training or not on tenure track, hence the issues related to tenure under discussion would not directly impact them. The question was then raised about the possibility of promotion for non-tenure-line faculty such as in PA and Athletic Training, but also including librarians. (The latter are currently evaluated within the Library under the Provost's administrative structure.) This concluded the discussion of RTP revisions.
5. Kipp reported on feedback from a department chairs' meeting on the proposed evaluation of chairs. She noted that the preference seems to be for an optional opportunity for faculty within departments to complete an anonymous evaluation of the chair. Kipp proposed discussing with division coordinators the development of a series of questions for the purpose of evaluating chairs.
6. Kipp reported that course releases have been specified in faculty contracts for 2008-2009.
7. Meeting adjourned.