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Faculty Governance at the University of Florida Libraries

Minutes - August 20, 2007: 3:00pm
Marston Science Library, L107

Joe Aufmuth called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

The Assembly officers for 2007-2008 were introduced: Chair-Joe Aufmuth, Chair-Elect -Vernon Kisling, Past Chair -Carol Kem, and Secretary Linda Butson.

The agenda for the meeting was approved as distributed.

The minutes for the previous meetings: June 18, 2007 LFA meeting, July 9, 2007 planning session, and August 6, 2007 LFA discussions with Dean Russell were approved with corrections to the July 9 minutes.

There were no member comments in the portion of the agenda which is an opportunity for those not scheduled on the agenda to address the Assembly.

Chair's Report

Joe Aufmuth outlined some of the issues facing the the library faculty assembly during 2007-2008, including budgets, strategic planning, career development and assignments, travel and professional development, library management structure and evaluations, working with multiple campus library administrations, separate library assemblies for Health and Law and how we work together and separately, merit pay criteria and distribution plan, and market equity.

Rich Bennett asked about the report of LFA governance submitted in the Spring 2007 and the requirements for another in Spring 2008.

Joe wants to actively engage Library faculty in the governance process. He requested members share their thoughts, including ideas for speakers at Assembly meetings.

Joe Aufmuth reported that the officers have met with Dean Russell. The officers are scheduled to meet with HSC Library Administration on August 30 and are seeking a meeting with Law Library Administration.

Library Administration Updates

Smathers

John Ingram and Judy Russell reported that Smathers does not have an official budget. The libraries are looking to make a 4% cut in the budget. The libraries will continue to hire as long as dollars are available. The Infrastructure Initiative to form a storage facility has received support and a proposal will be submitted to the BoD. University Libraries is engaging in a Strategic Planning process this Fall. There will be 4 strategic planning taskforces (3 content-oriented and one population/function -.oriented.) They are looking at library collections in a 5 year time frame.

1. Undergraduate education - John Ingram
2. Humanities and Social Sciences - Bill Covey
3. Health and other sciences - Michele Crump (engineering, sciences and health)

sciences)

4. Special Collection studies - Carol Turner and Shelly Arlen

Taskforce members will include: library representatives, faculty, University Library Committee and the Infrastructure Policy Committee members, undergraduates and graduate students, administrators. The taskforces will be gathering information from library constituents through Late October and concentrate on implementation planning November to January. The timing of strategic planning ties into the University of Florida capital campaign.

The Libraries will need to be active in fundraising for collections and staffing. Only 1% of University Libraries collections are currently endowed. Dean Russell has been discussing this with Deans as she meets with them. An analysis of the collection supporting engineering which compared UF's collection published within the past 10-15 years to 4 peer institutions (2 public and 2 private) showed that UF is below the mean. The Dean of Engineering is going to assist the library in fundraising to support that part of the collection. Dean Russell expects to take this model to other colleges and programs. While recent retirements provide opportunities to look at library structure to achieve strategic planning objectives that may be identified, no immediate changes are planned.

Smathers is recruiting for a second development officer to assist with the level and volume of fundraising expected to implement a strategic plan.

The strategic planning taskforces will look at University resources and needs in a comprehensive way. The role of Health and Law is significant in cooperative purchasing. It is expected that Health and Law will be asked to have representatives on the taskforces.

Law

Ed Hart reported that the Law Library had undergone a 4% budget cut exercise although the 10% tuition increase for graduate students will help their situation, they will delay hiring some personnel.

Health

Cecilia Botero reported that the Director of the HSC Library Search has been re-advertised to obtain a larger pool of applicants. The HSC Library remains reporting to the Vice President for Health Affairs.

Senate Update

Naomi Young reported that the year's first Senate meeting would be Thursday and primarily ceremonial with a State of the University address. Ed Hart has prepared an impact on the library paper for a proposed Law degree on Land Use. There are no action items proposed for this Senate meeting. Library Senators will meet with Dean Russell this week

Carol Kem reported from the Senate Steering Committee that there is cleanup of older items about degrees. There has been discussion about honorary degrees and revised procedures will be coming to the Faculty Senate this fall. There has been discussion of course- related faculty- produced materials required for students. A committee with library representation will be established to discuss conflict of interest and access issues. There is a bill in the legislature to control the costs of textbooks. This may raise access and availability issues.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Carol Kem reported the slate of nominees for the Sustained Performance Evaluation Process (SPEP) Committee. Since SPEP does relate to budget reporting there are no representatives from Health and Law on the committee. The slate is: John Van Hook (CM), Peter Malanchuck (CM), Alena Aissing (CM), Suzanne Brown (PS) , Erich Kesse (TS) and Jimmie Lungren (TS). There were no nominees from the floor. It was moved and seconded that the nominations be closed. The paper election will be sent out Monday August 27.

The Assembly has two elections Fall and Spring. For Fall 2007 there is only need for the SPEP. The Spring election will be for Library Senators and for officers of the Assembly. Faculty Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee had no report. The replacement for Carol Drum will be appointed by Dean Russell.

Strategic Planning Committee

No report.

Ombudsman Committee

No report. The committee has two members Jan Swanbeck and Nancy Schaefer. A representative is still needed from the Law Library.

Naomi Young was concerned that the desire for representation of all libraries on all committees may cause workload issues. Cecilia Botero expressed that representation depends on the committee functions.

UFF-UF Update

Suzanne Brown, First Vice President of the UF Chapter reported that members are working under the 2001-2003 agreement. Bargaining is going on and can be followed at <http://www.uffacultycontract.org/new/index.shtml> A list of tentative agreements can be found at <http://www.uffacultycontract.org/new/tentagreements.shtml>. Salaries are left to be bargained. Ms. Brown needs comparable examples of librarian salaries by rank and position. The Union is also recruiting department representative that can facilitate communication among members. A membership campaign will also occur. The Chapter is hoping for a fall ratification of the contract this academic year.

There were no LFA Officer Reports from Chair Elect, Past Chair, or Secretary.

There was no Old Business.

There was no New Business.

There were no Announcements.

The next meeting of the Assembly will be Monday September 17, 2007 at 3:00 PM at Marston Science Library Room 107.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.