

Faculty Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2021

10:30-11:30 (Zoom)

Present: Jason Ohlberg (chair), Xiaoshuo Hou, Oscar Perez-Hernandez, Casey Schofield (scribe)

1. Approved the minutes from 9/12/21
2. JO shared historical institutional context where faculty made contributions to DOF/college decision-making surrounding department/program tenure lines.
 - a. Discussed the possibility of structuring the working group to be explicitly advisory (avoids the concern that these faculty are placed in the role of a “shield” to the DOF).
 - b. Discussed the possibility of FEC offering a forum for faculty to offer their perspectives/concerns about this work
3. DOF Orr joined FEC for discussion of the working group regarding faculty lines; DOF Orr described his goal of constituting an advisory group who works with DOF to review outstanding requests for faculty lines (in light of institutional requirement to reduce the size of the faculty).
 - a. Work would be to collaboratively establish *criteria* to evaluate request for lines
 - b. Envisioning this group as *elected* (i.e., solicit nominations/self-nominations, and FEC runs an election for a 1-year position, but anticipates several years of this work ahead)
 - c. Prefers that this happens promptly this fall, assumes that most of the lines are searches that will *not* be able to happen this year. Imagines that this group would start with the work on evaluating outstanding requests from last year (that said, DOF Orr anticipates a small group of outstanding requests will be approved without this process established).
 - d. DOF Orr is envisioning the work of this group as *advisory* (i.e., the group would make a recommendation of what positions should be approved, and perhaps what positions should **not** be approve), the authority for the final decisions will be with the Dean’s office.
 - i. Discussed the possibility of ranked-order input as the output of this work to the Dean’s office.
 - e. DOF Orr is open to the possibility of faculty forum regarding the constitution and work of the advisory committee, noted some concerns about the timeline for this process (i.e., constituting the committee and then hosting a forum would likely constrain the timeline less).
4. FEC discussed further and came to consensus about the value of a forum – either hosted as a COW during the next faculty meeting or an open forum on a Friday. Plan to discuss details further over email (e.g., regarding how the goals of the discussion are defined, how the forum is framed)
5. Xiaoshuo Hou identified as incoming FEC chair for AY2022-2023
6. Briefly discussed modifications to CAS operating code – JO to circle back to CAS to request clarity.
7. Brief update on process for establishing faculty listserv.
8. Discussed a faculty concern regarding challenges (especially in the context of hiring) that can arise when department colleagues are also married, noted the absence of FHB surrounding this context.