

October 11, 2011
PFC Meeting

Sarah Lichtman
David Brody
James Mendolia
Davie Marin
Anezka Sebek
Shari Diamond
Emily Moss
Cynthia Lawson
David Carroll
Ted Byfield

Membership issues

- Simone Douglas (AMT), Greg Newton (ADHT) stepped down
Thomas Werner (AMT) as alt/replacement

Schedule

- Future meetings: 15 Nov, 13 Dec

Approval of minutes

Report by SDS faculty Emily Moss and Shari Diamond

- Feedback from the PFA meeting re: research on role of DAA
- Idea by PFC to invite DAA's to our council meeting
- Need for clearer communication between PFC and DAA on issues
- In addition to clearer communication, people specifically requested to know the PROCESS by which we do research
Schedule builder—ways to make it clearer and more streamlined
- Question about consistency of ways decisions made from School to School
- Clarification of long term verses short term projects—clarification of projects and timeline presented
- Re-examining the operational structure—suggestion of adding an additional co-chair for three co-chairs with each heading a subcommittee meeting
- Discussion

PFA meeting feedback and discussion

- Idea of how the research was done for workload report
- Confirmation that all DAAs were conferred with before the report
- Issues in the School of Fashion re: role of DAA.

- In School of Fashion recognition of the need for increased planning re: courses and base load
- Discussion re: curriculum governance
- DAA and Program Directors—issues with the positions and ways to improve the positions through the very nature of the role
- Difficulties of the positions—need for more administrative support is acute
- Need for more feedback and communication with the Deans office—better ways of reporting on the situations in the Schools and provide budgetary support for this
- Call for the role of the PFC to take up these issues in a more robust manner
- Idea of more support for faculty and the idea of workload for faculty in relation to administrative duties
- Idea of competition of administrative resources within the Schools
- Discussion

Report from Senate by Ted Byfield

- Appointment of subcommittee heads--James Dodd Governance, Aleksandra Wagner Faculty Affairs and Infrastructure is Ted Byfield
- Faculty Policy development prospectus from Provost office sent to PFC
- Report to Senate by President
- Idea of crafting bold responses to the problems of faculty
- Idea of promoting exchange between the President and this level of governance
- Idea of us as an important body speaking for the faculty
- Examples of guiding principles proposed by Ted Byfield to Senate
- Safe Connect system—do study to see if it is beneficial

Benefits Committee Report, Sarah Lichtman and David Brody

- Posting of benefits sheet
- Committee has met with Nadine Bourgeois and moving forward
- Circulation of Senate notes to PFC

Update from the Parsons Leadership Council—Cynthia Lawson

- Alumni reunion
- Update on International Schools—Matt Caballero's update
- CL requested that the info be shared with all FT faculty
- Bridget O'Rourke gave update about Paris—about to secure building and open school
- Issues around the name of “Parsons Paris”
- Goal to open in Spring 2013
- “The New School Parsons Paris”
- Interest in getting more FTF involved in international programs
- Idea of perhaps a more formal process in place

- Faculty Affairs Committee—three subcommittees—one to look at the policies of rank review, second to look at sabbaticals and academic leaves, third subcommittee looking at common practices across divisions i.e. advising Provost on issues such as workload, governance, etc. Examining bylaws, charter documents and workload. What should be common and what should be specific to each division
- Subcommittees draft a “green paper” and then “white paper” gets drafted which goes to all FTF faculty
- Parsons reps are Cynthia Lawson, Peter Wheelwright and Simone Douglas

Varia

- Facilities Management Office requested to present at PFA—we suggested that they present at meeting run by Joel
- Also from Jess Irish about Datamyne—idea of having her present before or after PFA—if you want to find out more information

Assignment of Subcommittees

- Benefits, David Brody and Sarah Lichtman
- Handbook Revision, Shari Diamond, Emily Moss, Luciana Scrutchen, Anezka Sebek, and Thomas Werner.
- Curricular Governance, David Carroll, Dave Marin, and Tamara Albu
- Student Evaluations, Derek Porter and James Mendolia

Adjournment

Submitted by Sarah A. Lichtman