Parsons Faculty Assembly Minutes

October 23, 2012

Welcome

Development Presentation

Jean Tagi, Senior Director of development for Parsons

- How they work with faculty for funds for the programs
- Steps to seek grants, etc
- Four people in the department
- 4.5-4.8 million for scholarships, annual fund, etc
- Want to work together
- Let the know if a faculty member is going after a certain funder—idea of not wanting to compete with ourselves
- Office can help prepare reports and manage the grants
- Contact information handed out to faculty
- Offering workshop on November 15th—introductory process from searching for funders, etc
- Office hours—try to visit each of the Schools—informal questions welcome
- Handout sheet about seeking funds and then post awards
- --five step process out lined in handout
- First step speak with Dean and then follow up with their office
- Public opportunities—provost office contact Robert Guiterrez, Director or Research Support
- Questions from the floor
- All grants can be managed—from small to large
- Indirect costs can be added onto a grant—on top of program costs—funder must give permission for this. Some of these things established by the Federal government, etc.
- Notify office after receiving a grant—Provost for City and State and Federal grants
- The report can be helpful to set the stage for the next grant—an opportunity for more funding
- Indirect costs
- Idea of a more timely approach to things—getting proposals in early enough for a proper review
- Their office as a resource and first place to start

Update by the Dean

- Acknowledgment of the new support from the development office
- Faculty survey will arrive in one-week—COACHE faculty at Opinioncast.com
- Encouragement to complete the survey
- Collect data as well as Middle-States review—survey out there because the Faculty Affairs group needs to Middle-States review
- Complete it quickly—will delay information getting back and will help the Middle-States process
- The information goes first to the Provost Office,
- Survey should take about 30 min.
- Middle-States info posted on the Provost website
- Early November information will be released to the public as well as the evolving strategic visions of the New School

Old Business

Bylaws revisions

- There was no quorum—o there will be a special email vote on the bylaws revision—vote within next few weeks
- Must have enough votes to approve them!
- Workload Policy

PFC/PFA Committees for 2012-2013

- Workload committee, Charter Development, Advising Committee
- Faculty is welcome to participate in the committees

Workload

- Questions from the floor
- Good movement in providing job descriptions
- Movement on Course Release
- Questions about service—don't want a service load that is too big—Dean
 working on breaking out the committee service and makes sure all can
 participate but minimize some of the service issues
- Prep time is built into the teaching load as well as time to asses the course throughout the semester
- So far nothing has been discussed or debated—this has been put out by the Parsons Faculty Council to get the conversation started
- Idea of putting forth scenarios to help the faculty find clarity in the document
- List of committees—standing and Ad Hoc—so many that it would be helpful to see what they are—could shape our workload in a meaningful way
- School deans have been compiling School by School

- Clarity in terms of how service in various areas are viewed in terms of reappointment, etc.
- Idea of representing diversity of service—how to balance this overtime—how it applies to the review process. Service to University, Parsons, School, etc.
- Idea of working groups within Schools
- Graduate directors have the admissions process to deal with—idea of inconsistencies in the process
- Ida of a reassessment of the committees that we have—idea of a proliferation of committees. Five Schools produced many, many committees
- Time to balance shared governance and culture building with a reduction in committees to release people form service obligations that they have

Faculty Senate report—Susan Yelavich and Ted Byfield

- Issue of the Senate meting with the PFA
- Faculty affairs committee—pedagogy and budget
- Governance considering issues and bylaws—now three year terms
- Budget—president and provost invited two senators to serve on the budget strategy committee for the University
- Is the faculty Senate and model we have capable of working in a nimble way if things come up on a sudden basis
- Not as nimble as it should be
- Now more direct informed representation on the Budget committee
- Serve as advocates in a direct pipeline and disseminate a deeper understanding
- Articulate more clearly what exactly does the faculty do?
- Meeting with President and Provost
- Idea of what the idea of a University might be in the future
- Reps come to the University leadership council—context for budget discussions
- Needs to be robust system of collaboration and ideas

Undergraduate Curriculum input

- With implementation of undergraduate curriculum—larger role in teaching and advising
- How do FTF get involved with advising and what is the relationship with the professional advising staff
- What role should we play in teaching in the undergrad curriculum
- How best can we play a role in academic advising
- Ida of how to develop evaluation of what is an "A"

- More advising necessitates more information
- Concerns over service implications—the sheer number of students
- Communication between PT and FT must be part of the culture of thinking forward-how can we add service loads to PT faculty?
- Idea of lack of cross faculty communications

Next meetings

- PLC November 6
- PFC November 13
- All Faculty November 20
- PFA November 27

Adjourn—Submitted by Sarah Lichtman