

September 4, 2012

Parsons Faculty Council Minutes

Welcome by Joel Towers

COACHE Survey--Collaborative on Academic Careers and Education

- Relevant for FTF
- From years of trying to understand experience of mentorship and support
- COACHE is a national survey administered by Harvard in order to understand these issues
- Faculty working Group from Middle-States-Looking for this information from New School—work and possibility of advancement
- Will be announcing the survey through an email
- COACHEfaculty @opinioncast.com
- Once email is distributed New School can no longer communicate electronically about the email
- Email from Tim to all faculty—will highlight the benefits
- Entirely confidential—goes to Harvard
- All faculty will be taking this survey—term, tenure, etc.
- Yet is still a small sampling—need many responses
- Will have some divisional data—161 Parsons faculty
- “think” fill get divisional information
- Decade started doing survey—COACHE

Three things to highlight for the year:

- Budget presentation again—mid-year February
- Coincide with the presentation with the Board of Governors
- Info collected after the snapshot—number who have come and returning students, etc
- Idea of transparency around budget issues—real difference from School to School in terms of the local understanding of the budget
- Operating budget: Working on it at the School level—budget directors and director of operations, etc. Nadine will work with them—idea of what is happening across each school.
- Restricted budget not captured in this
- Idea of budget transparencies

Divisional Charters

- Competed two of the three papers last year—MyNewSchool site
- Divisional charters and promotion/rank
- Charter—each division will write a charter—but we have many chapters of a charter
- We have documents—matter of collecting

- Also have from APT committee—practices around promotion
- RTA reviews, etc
- Part is collecting and part is writing a preamble for the charter for the division
- Idea of structures within the division
- Value in writing the charter
- Workload needs to be completed—divisional authority and general principle of fairness across the university
- University vs. Divisional
- Workload must meet the test of fairness
- Charter is mandated this year because of the White Paper
- Broader charters through other Art and Design schools
- Ours will have a certain kind of uniqueness—Soo is collecting information, presented to Leadership Council
- What is our timeline to complete this?
- How far do we need to get this year?
- What are the procedures?
- Faculty need to be involved
- Supplemental handbook
- White paper posted on the provost website—no deadline

Undergraduate Curriculum

- 2013 is the launch of the curriculum
- Involve series of rollouts over next years
- Com. On Undergraduate Education
- School Based coordinators and Course based coordinators
- Five PT brought in
- Also tapped FT faculty
- Idea of putting resources there—we need to be ready next fall
- Using this year as a faculty and final course development year
- This is a big issue for PT faculty
- Put pressure on PFA assembly and its insistence to being FT body
- FT have oversight responsibilities—that is why they are FT
- PT has rep. in the Senate—critical that the issues are brought back to the PFC to discuss
- Ted is our communication on PT
- Spending this year doing faculty development
- CUE will begin to look to Sophomore year curriculum
- Want PT faculty working on syllabi, etc
- FT teaching at all levels of the curriculum
- Over the course of time—undergrad and grad.

Academic Advising

- There is no formal process for faculty advising at undergraduate level
- Workload issues—Juli Parker in advising to look at it from the perspective of advising
- Need parallel assessment—perhaps cannot accommodate it as a workload piece
- Faculty advising increasingly critical
- Development is pedagogical and syllabus based—idea of getting faculty up-to-speed
- Idea of the development of the syllabus
- Course coordinators, etc. meeting to do this
- PT faculty will

New Business

- PFA meeting formats
- Parsons Paris, Paris Shanghai, Parsons Mumbai
- Benefits resolution will be passed on to faculty Senate—PFA approved it
- Subcommittee working on course evaluation process—Emily Moss has resigned—Derek Porter working on it
- Bylaws revision—never had a quorum to revise
- PFA mandate posted on the Parsons website—can do concurrently
- Meetings now 9:30-11:00 extra ½ hour
- Better to formalize the meetings—upfront in the agenda to get that covered
- Second half would be when we discuss major issues,
- FTF job descriptions for all RTA—working on this. Pull up the numbers to see who has what.

Adjourn

Submitted by Sarah A. Lichtman