GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

Minutes

October 15, 2009
(4:00-5:00 p.m.)
Room 388 Town

Present: Max Porter, Susan Carlson, Pol Herrmann, Andy Hillier, Tom Loynachan, John Mayfield, Mike Owen, Ken Stalder, Arnold van der Valk, and Skip Walter.

1. Called to order by Max Porter at 4:05 p.m.

2. Secretary assignment (Loynachan)

3. Agenda order was changed to allow items 10a and 10b to be discussed earlier than order indicated. Agenda approved.

4. Previous minutes (September 25) were approved without change.

5. Susan Carlson discussed the termination policy (10a) found in the Faculty Handbook under 3.4. Termination of annual employees and those on 3-yr contracts were discussed. At minimum, the footnote needs to be changed. Better yet might be to add 3.4.1 (mainly what occurs in this section now) and add 3.4.2 to cover non-tenure eligible faculty. Skip Walter’s committee will consider.

6. Arnold Van der Valk discussed the definition of NTER (10b). Part of the discussion centered on reduction of force policy of the Board of Regents for faculty. The Board policy appears not to be readily available on their website. There currently is confusion in the Faculty Handbook on whether NTER are faculty. After discussion, it was moved and seconded to delete next to the last sentence under 3.3.3.1: “Persons holding this title…..” This in effect will make NTER members of the general faculty. Motion passed. Skip’s committee will check on the consistency of this change with other sections of the Faculty Handbook.

7. CDDR recommended changes (7a) to the Faculty Handbook. The wording presented by CDDR was amended for clarity to “Departmental policies for the awarding of rank and granting of tenure for new hires shall be followed.” This
amended wording was approved. This sentence is to be added as the last sentence under 5.2.1.2.

8. CDDR recommended changes (7a) to the Faculty Handbook. The first two sentences under 5.6.1 are to be amended to read: “The supervision of teaching assistants and the maintenance of teaching proficiency standards are the responsibilities of the hiring department. To that end, departments or programs in which teaching assistants perform their duties will evaluate their teaching proficiency at the end of each academic period.” Motion passed.

9. CDDR recommend changes to “Best Practices” (7b). A new item 12 (with small d in dean in two locations) was approved:

   College governance documents should include these items required by the Resource Management Model:
   a) Each dean shall have a budget advisory council/committee with significant faculty membership, including at least one faculty senator. The governance document should describe the membership of the college’s budget advisory committee.
   b) The dean will communicate to members of the college annually on college goals, priorities, planning, and budget.

10. Discussion followed on moving this from best practices to the Faculty Handbook. Skip’s committee will look for the proper place to locate this item and suitable wording.

11. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. Date and time of next meeting to be announced by Max Porter.