

Minutes of the Governance Council

November 6, 2014

Members present: Chauhan, Duffy, Jackson, Lorenz, Malu, Nagaraj, Olaye, Vovchuk

1. The minutes from the October 10 meeting were approved with minor edits.
2. Jackson reported that on October 30, she and Tony Joachim received an email from Susan Dinan asking about the status of the Governance Council's stance on the Elections resolution. Duffy created a chronology of the Council's review of the matter. The Council reiterated their position and stated that the changes to the by-laws must be re-introduced at the Faculty Senate.
3. The Council discussed the idea that Emeritus status should be an award that does not impose an additional "cost" to the University. Benefits like parking, Library access, email, etc. do not add cost. Office space, however, could be classified as a resource that has an associated cost.

However, if economic factors are in play when deciding Emeritus benefits, then withholding resources with specific costs (such as copying) can result in no benefit to the University, since it could impede research and other work.

4. The Council reviewed the current Emeritus policy at William Paterson. After heavily debating over office space, the Council settled on the following points to create an amended version of Emeritus benefits (points already agreed upon from October 20 are included for clarity):
 - a. Parking privileges with decal
 - b. University email address
 - c. Full use of Library services
 - d. Work space (NOT laboratory or studio space) IF available and with approval and cooperation of appropriate departments
 - e. Ability to teach, lecture, and research for William Paterson University at the invitation of the appropriate department
 - f. Listed as Emeritus in University catalog and publications
 - g. Receive University publications
 - h. Formal certificate of Emeritus Status

The Council accepted the amended version of Emeritus benefits unanimously.

5. The Council discussed the "statute of limitations" on Emeritus nominations – whether to set a limit or whether it was necessary to address the issue at all. It was pointed out that other mechanisms exist that would prevent faculty who have been retired for long periods of time from being recommended for Emeritus status. It was also pointed out that the issue could come up again in the future, and since the Council is reviewing Emeritus policy as a whole, it might be better to take the current opportunity to introduce a rule and thereby establish clarity for the future. Chauhan proposed a limit of five years after retirement for a faculty member to be nominated, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. The Council reviewed the Emeritus resolution for James Manning. The resolution was approved after edits.
7. The next meeting of the Governance Council was set for Thursday, December 11 at 12:45 PM in the Reference Conference Room of the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Vovchuk