

Arts and Sciences General Faculty Meeting
February 27, 2014

Mr. Leo Hudson, Chair of the Academic Policies Committee, called the AY2013-14 Arts and Sciences General Faculty meeting to order at 3:35pm.

Mr. Hudson called for review of last year's minutes. Copies of the minutes had been attached to the bulk email announcing the meeting. There was a motion and second (Moss, Kuehn) to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Mr. Hudson introduced a petition by the faculty to change the composition of the College Promotion Committee. Dr. Jeremy Wade, who had been instrumental in the petition, explained the intent, which is to insure equal representation from the three areas of the College, fine arts, natural sciences, and social sciences. The proposed changes had been attached to the bulk email announcing the meeting. Motion and second (Jayawardhana, Chung) to approve the changes. Discussion. Motion passed.

Mr. Hudson introduced Dr. Brad Hodson, Vice President of University Advancement, and Dr. Karl Kunkel, Dean of Arts and Sciences, to present the Excellence in Teaching Awards for AY12-13. Dr. Hodson stated the awards are to honor faculty members each year from all four colleges who exemplify excellent teaching. He further stated that faculty are the driving force of the University and carry the weight of students forming a strong bond with the University. Dr. Kunkel introduced last year's winners and called them forward to receive plaques: Dr. Hazel Coltharp and Dr. Jamie McDaniel.

Dr. Kunkel presented a power point recognizing faculty who had achieved other awards and honors. In addition to Drs. Coltharp and McDaniel, those recognized were:

Tenure: Phillip Harries, Alicia Mason, Mandy Peak-Bryan, Jeremy Wade

Promotion to University Promotion: Dilip Paul

Promotion to Professor: S. Portico Bowman, Michael Gullett, James Oliver, Reena Natenberg

Promotion to Associate Professor: Alicia Mason, James McBain, Philip Rudd, Jeremy Wade, Xiaolu Wu

Completed Doctorate: Kristi Frisbee

Awarded Sabbaticals AY14-15: Susan Carlson, James Dawson, Roy Janisch, Hyun-Joong Kim, Li-Lin Tseng

Outstanding Faculty Scholarship Award: Cheryl Giefer

Outstanding Faculty Undergraduate Research Mentor Award: Alicia Mason

Outstanding Faculty: Troy Comeau, Aesha John

Fulbright Scholar: Casie Hermansson

Retiring: Stephen Meats (35 years), Jim Triplett (33 years)

New Chairpersons: Barbara Bonnekessen, HPASS; Petar Dvornic, Chemistry; David Kuehn, Physics; Kenneth Hutchinson, Military Science

The final agenda item was Dr. Kunkel's discussion with the faculty. Four separate initiatives are underway and he asked the individuals leading those initiatives to come forward to update the faculty. Dr. Mary Carol Pomatto spoke on the proposed DNP, which will be the first doctorate offered at PSU. Dr. Celia Patterson presented brief remarks on the progress of the MLL Taskforce, which is charged with making recommendations for the department as it moves forward after the BA degrees in Spanish and French were deleted. Dr. Bobby Winters, Director of the PSU in Paraguay Program, updated the faculty on the program and asked faculty to contact him if they are interested in teaching general education courses in Asuncion. Dr. Petar Dvornic spoke on the Polymer Initiative. The initiative is a University wide program that includes Development (KPRC), the College of Arts & Sciences (Dept of Chemistry), and the College of Technology (Plastics Engineering). The Dept of Chemistry has developed a major in Polymer Chemistry and is starting to develop a Master's in Polymer Chemistry.

Dr. Kunkel provided answers to questions that had been submitted to him by the Academic Policies Committee. He spoke on formalizing the Reinstatement Policy, the Center for the Arts and how the director fits into the University's organizational structure, the title change of Department of Nursing to School of Nursing, summer school and online summer courses, the Regents Social Media Policy, and the budget and its implications for staffing and dept needs.

He opened the floor for questions. There were not questions from the audience and the meeting was adjourned at 4:45.