

SMC Academic Senate Personnel Policies Committee meeting minutes
Tuesday, December 12, 2017
1:30 to 3:00pm
Library 275

Present: Andrew Nestler (Chair), Sherri Lee-Lewis (Secretary), Trish Burson, Tracey Ellis, Mitch Heskell, Lisa Maier, Moya Mazorow

Ex officio: Nate Donahue (Academic Senate President)

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:35pm.

II. Public comments: Nate reported that the Department Chairs Committee has requested that the PPC revise AR 3211.3 to permit fourth-year probationary faculty members to run in a department chair election against tenured faculty members. Nate urged the PPC to include language to this effect in the AR.

III. There were no announcements.

IV. The minutes of the November 28 meeting, amended to clarify that Nate is an ex officio committee member, were approved unanimously (moved by Mitch, seconded by Moya).

V. AR 3211.3 (Department Chairperson – Tenure and Selection): The entire committee remains opposed to the idea of fourth-year probationary faculty members being eligible to run against tenured faculty members for the chair of a department. Reasons include: (1) Committee members believe that eligibility to run in such an election should be a privilege that comes with tenure; and (2) If a probationary faculty member wins an election and then is denied tenure, a special election will need to be held the following spring, reducing the amount of time that the newly selected department chair would have to “shadow” and learn from the current department chair (if the current chair is not also the newly selected chair). Nevertheless, the committee is modifying sections 4 and 10 to increase the pool of candidates for a department chair election, per Nate’s suggestion.

A motion to approve the draft was moved by Trish and seconded by Lisa, and it passed unanimously.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm (moved by Moya, seconded by Sherri, and approved unanimously).