

CAS chairs meeting March 15, 2007- SUMMARY

Joe Walsh, Diana Schaub, Janet Headley, Steve Fowl, Steven Hughes, Jai Ryu, Amanda Thomas, Victor Delclos, Joe Ciarrochi, Brian Barr, Dipa Choudhury, David Rivers, Randy Jones, Russell Cook, Ron Tanner, Kathy Siren, Dale Snow, Sharon Nell, Jim Buckley, Duane Shelton

See separate handout on Announcements. There were also Announcements about the new custom Loyola Writing Handbook, the NCATE accreditation visit for the Education department, the college strategic plan (it was requested that the summary of that be edited for the natural sciences to reflect specific points). Jim asked Chairs to ask faculty to fill out both the FSSE surveys and the Core Review Committee survey.

Discussion of Junior Faculty Sabbatical. The question was of how one weights need vs. quality of a proposal. Having a scale (10 point or Likert) doesn't really solve the problem, since one can still weight a particular dimension more heavily for a particular application. This was not resolved. The question of late letters was also discussed. Jim will come up with some wording with regard to this. One suggestion was that if there was dated email proof of a request than a late response might be allowed if it comes in time to be distributed to chairs. The other point of view was that this should be considered as competitive and as hard and fast a deadline as anything else and junior faculty simply need to insure that letters are written and received.

Department meetings. A proposed change of wording for the faculty handbook was suggested. Randy Jones suggested that no wording at all was needed about faculty members being able to request department meetings, you can't cover every possibility or legislate everything and what is it saying about faculty? Jim said he would talk with Lee about the SSBM statement and perhaps eliminate this entirely.

DCR – A discussion about the diversity course requirement and problems with implementation. Jim clarified the position that the subcommittee is approving syllabi and not faculty and that chairs need to be able to make the prudential judgment about who might be capable of teaching these courses and about modification to the syllabus that are still in keeping with the DCR. Of course there are upper level courses taught in one's area of specialization where this may not be possible, but there should also be core courses where this is possible. The need is for about 80 sections a semester of diversity

courses to be able to run. This means that about 4-5 sections are expected from most departments. Clearly in some departments this would not be possible. The subcommittee would then be evaluating this because that would be a regular part of the required assessment of the DCR and the renewal of course approval for the DCR. The general sentiment was in favor of this. Some chairs cautioned about the need to keep the standard for the DCR and to encourage training of faculty and chairs, perhaps creating a chairs' specific workshop. Support was expressed for the MCIW. Support was strong for the proposed working changes of the Dean's document about the DCR.

Suzanne