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FAPAAC minutes 09/20/2011

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Faculty and P&A Affairs Committee (FAPAAC) Meeting
20 September 2011

Present: Mary Elizabeth Bezanson, Sara Haugen, Athena Kildegaard, Judy Kuechle, Tom Ladner, Roger Wareham, Heather Waye, James Wojtaszek, Cyrus Bina

Minutes from the last meetings were approved.

Cyrus Bina has replaced Dennis Stewart on the committee and will serve a 3 year term.

The meeting of committee chairs heard a report on the Faculty Development Committee and their work on a Center for Excellence. The FAPAAC perhaps should talk to the chair of the FDC about our involvement in developing this Center. The committee chairs meeting also discussed the new backfill policy.

Although extra funds have been allocated to UMM for FREF, many faculty have indicated that release time is also necessary to complete research. Tim Mulcahy has provided funds for a pilot project, and the Faculty Development Committee will generate a proposal (which will eventually come to the FAPAAC).

Another project in the works involves revising UMM's facilities and administration costs recovery policy that is built in to grants to make them more flexible. This proposal will likely go before the Planning Committee rather than this committee.

All minutes from all committees will eventually be uploaded to a website hosted by the library. We need to be aware as a campus that access to these minutes is not password protected.

Salary Report update: using the AAUP data, a report has been created showing how much everyone's salary increased last year in actual money. The numbers make it look like we are paid much better than the previous report indicated. It appears that this report from last year was indeed correct, and that the change in numbers is due to a 27th pay period for some employees. It is unclear why this discrepancy did not change the numbers for the other campuses as much as for UMM. The discussion of the Salary Report will be put on hold until we receive corrected numbers from the Twin Cities campus.

SCFA update: an agenda item that should be noted is the concern about public perception of the University and its contribution to the state. There should be more of an effort to promote the function of the University and the productivity of its faculty to address the concerns of the general public.

A reminder of upcoming events – November 8 is a celebration of scholarly activity on campus. A representative from the Office for Conflict Resolution (TC campus) would like to visit UMM, likely sometime in the spring semester.