

Committee on Non-Tenure Track Faculty

Meeting Minutes

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Lory Student Center

Attendees: Jenny Morse, Sue Doe, Steve Benoit, Natalie Barnes, Natalie Ooi, Steven Schaeffer, Joseph Diverdi, David Greene, Matt Camper, Patty Stutz-Tanenbaum, Leslie Stone-Roy

1. Call to order
2. Natalie B brought copies of the article entitled: “Universities take steps to improve working conditions for adjuncts” Chronicle of Higher Education.
3. Minutes from April 4th were approved
4. Discussion about April 19th meeting on the committee on the Status of Women Faculty. Natalie Barnes and Leslie Stone-Roy will attend meeting.
5. Discussion about the Center for Study of Academic Labor meeting/forum on April 27th & the importance of attending this meeting and getting other people to attend. Patty asked a question about the center and Sue informed us that it is a center within the university that looks labor issues, publishes information, has a database and resources and has been in existence for 3 years. The center provides a home for scholarship and research associated to labor issues. There is a website also. For April 27th forum, people are flying in from all over and they’ve been asked to weigh in on our CoNTTF proposal and give advice.
6. Discussion about the April 14th meeting with Dan Bush and Mary Stromberger – CoRSAF is working on the bullying policy and has not looked at our proposal. There was extensive discussion about the CoFG survey that was sent out to all faculty and how to respond, as well as discussion about communication issues and the false impression that the steps taken by CoNTTF were not done properly. There was discussion about term limits for committee chairs and more discussion about the fact that misunderstandings about our proposal are prevalent and need to be cleared up since they are leading to a panic response from some TTF. We need to promote communication. There are barriers to communication however. These barriers and possible ways to enhance communication were discussed. Leverage, public perception and the unionization of other universities were discussed. It was proposed that we send out 2 messages. One to academic faculty to clear up misunderstandings; this needs to be very carefully constructed and directly address points. The other message needs to be a response to the survey that was sent out by CoFG along with biased comments about the proposal and comparisons to procedures for a Special Academic Unit. A draft will be reviewed by a smaller working group. David has already responded to each point in the survey and will send it to committee so we can edit it. Jenny will ask Mary if she and/or the Executive Committee can review the steps CoNTTF has taken and communicate whether CoFG needs to repeat the effort.
7. Matt noted that his department would like an update about survey and this was discussed. Joseph offered to go to the departmental meeting since Matt has outreach responsibilities at that time.
8. There was a discussion about drafting a message to central administration about compensation and ensuring that NTTF are part of salary exercise. Central said there would be support for salary exercise increases, yet this was not on the budget discussion even though the plan was to roll out NTTF proposal in the fall.
9. We need to nominate and elect a chair and vice chair by May 15th. Committee members should send in nominations so that we can vote at the next meeting.
10. Leslie mentioned that she was interviewed by the Coloradoan
11. Adjourn