

Faculty Development Committee

February 16, 2021

The Faculty Development Committee met virtually on February 16, 2021, at 10:00 am.

Present were: Mbaye, Overfield, Hoang, Lopez, Boumenir, Erben, Yarbrough, Rogers, Britton, Nelson, Green, Kang, and Faucette.

The committee discussed providing release time for program coordinators, graduate directors, and others with similar administrative responsibilities. A questionnaire to collect information on the workload and time investment involved in these activities is being coordinated by Professors Mbaye and Green with input from the FDC. It will be sent to the FDC and then to the program coordinators for their input. Professor Faucette will contact the provost to determine if he is amenable to providing release time for these positions.

The committee discussed the proposed policy from the Provost on the extension for tenure timeline. It was compared with what Shelley Rogers, et al., had previously constructed and emailed to the FDC. The phrase “promotion and tenure” should be changed to tenure since promotion is not time sensitive. Professor Faucette will contact the Provost to discuss this issue. [Due to personal issues, Professor Dan Williams will hold this discussion with the Provost.]

The role of SEIs in promotion and tenure decisions was discussed. The question still remains if the SEIs should be evaluative or informative during the COVID period.

It was brought up that the committee needs to choose a new chair for the 2021–2022 academic year. It was pointed out that (1) with the extensive reorganization of the university, we do not know the composition of the Faculty Senate and hence cannot choose a chair and (2) this is the earliest the selection of a chair has ever been made from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. This issue was postponed until the composition of the Senate is fixed.