

# Faculty Development Committee

February 2, 2021

The Faculty Development Committee met virtually on February 2, 2021, at 10:00 am.

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

The committee discussed facets of what should be included in a policy on the suspension of the tenure clock due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee discussed whether the request for an extension should require the approval of supervisory personnel or simply their notification—and how the answer to that question would affect the timeline for the request. If the request requires approval, the committee needs to formulate an appeal mechanism for due process.

The committee discussed a policy on release time from teaching for program coordinators and other functional administrators. Professor Green reported that she oversees four programs and is granted two courses release per year by the College of Education. It was suggested that those overseeing one program received no release time. However, the granting of release time should be tied to the number of students and the number of faculty members in those programs. The question of resource allocation was addressed: Can a program spare a faculty member for release time and where does the funding come from? It was decided that a questionnaire should be constructed and disseminated collecting information from across campus—but especially from CACSI—about how units deal with release time for program coordinators already. Professor Mbaye and Professor Green will construct the questionnaire and the data will be collected via Qualtrix.

Dean Overfield reported that we have received 29 faculty research grant proposals and that she has already contacted the reviewers. We are now waiting for the reviewers to complete and submit their assessment of the proposals in order to make recommendations on faculty research grants.

The topic of the role of student evaluations in decisions about promotion, tenure, and post-tenure review arose. The issue is this: Is the purpose of the student evaluations informative or evaluative?

The committee scheduled an extra meeting on February 16 to finalize issues.