

FEC Report on the 30 November 2020 Committee of Committees Meeting

Present: FEC members Casey Schofield (Chair), Katie Hauser (scribe), Xiaoshuo Hou (scribe), Jason Ohlberg (scribe), along with representatives from ATC, PC, IPPC, CAFR, FDC, CEPP, CC, TRB, PHF, AC, and CIGU. The meeting was hosted via Zoom.

The FEC chair welcomed everyone and congratulated all for getting through the fall semester during the COVID-19 pandemic. FEC chair reviewed the purpose of the meeting – this is an opportunity to share the important work the committees have been doing; and report on the quality of intra-committee and inter-committee work, as well as the quality of working relationships with administrators.

Appointments and Tenure Committee (ATC)

14 tenure cases occupied much of their work this semester; productively worked with DoF/VPAA and Associate Dean Fehling.

Working productively with Promotions Committee (PC) to expand bias mitigation training; looking into changing procedures and possibly Faculty Handbook language.

Worked with CEPP regarding student ratings and feedback forms.

Working with TRB and CAFR on potential means to modify the tenure review process; specifically to permit CAFR to provide input. This work is expected to be ongoing in the spring.

Worked with FEC on staffing a faculty representative on the search committee for VP for Advancement.

In general, interactions with the administration and other committees have been smooth.

Promotions Committee (PC)

Committee completed bias-mitigation training and continued its reading on fair, equitable, and inclusive review process throughout the semester.

Strong working relationship with both ATC (see above) and with CEPP (on student ratings and feedback form discussion).

Hosted their annual informational meeting this fall for faculty who are considering

Over the summer CEPP developed a statement about on-line teaching guidelines.

Developed proposal for attendance policy for fall 2020 and spring 2021.

The work that has occupied the bulk of CEPP's time this semester has been on fall and spring student ratings and feedback – CEPP has appreciated help from ATC and PC on this.

- o Long-term work regarding the nature and role of student ratings and feedback has been deprioritized for this reason, but CEPP has begun this conversation.

CEPP made revisions to the academic calendar for fall 2020; has approved new spring (2021) calendar

Also beginning to examine how ELL is handled in our curriculum.

Working in collaboration with FYE office on approaches for training students how to approach student ratings.

Working with Curriculum Committee on the implementation of Bridge Experience (BE).

Curriculum Committee (CC)

Primary focus of their work has been supporting the transition to the new curriculum (particularly in terms of Bridge Experience and Senior Coda courses).

Has worked productively with the Director of BE, the Associate Dean of the Faculty for Student Affairs and CEPP.

Workload has been notably higher than in the past – the number of proposals has tripled from an average year.

- o This is required some streamlining to previous processes; these changes seem effective and likely will be maintained moving forward

CC is thinking about their committee's role in efforts to support efforts to decolonize syllabi – has been (and expects to continue) working with CEPP on this.

Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC)

Meetings occurred throughout the summer focused on Fall 2020 planning. More recently have focused on Spring/Summer 2021.

In the fall: devoted time to discussing the role of IPPC and establishing norms for this committee's work.

Working relations on IPPC are good, including open discussions. Materials are received in a timely manner.

This fall IPPC members have received reports and discussed: the Racial Justice Initiative, Healthcare reform, Title IX changes, student employment plans, and a large-scale renewable energy project.

Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights (CAFR)

CAFR has had an unusually busy fall; including 6 cases and 3 that required mediation.

Beginning work in collaboration with ATC and TRB on streamlining the review process following tenure denials.

Met with former CAFR chairs to generate institutional memory in order to inform an understanding about how CAFR can most effectively protect academic

freedom

The group had a brief discussion of potential approaches for enhancing working relations between faculty and administration.

FEC chair reminded committee representatives to identify their chair for next year if they have not already, to ensure that (when relevant) student representatives are included in scheduling meeting times for the spring, and to send their operating code to FEC when revisions have been completed.

Respectfully submitted,
Faculty Executive-De-