

University Programs & Awards Committee SUNY University Faculty Senate

Plenary Meeting
April 2009
University at Buffalo

Conversations in the Disciplines:

- The Awards Committee met by teleconference on March 20, 2009. The main focus of the meeting was to prepare the Committee for the online review of the Conversations in the Disciplines grant proposals. We reviewed the guidelines, management of the online review process, and what to expect at our in-person selection meeting in Binghamton on May 9, 2009. At the Binghamton meeting we will also discuss any needed revisions for subsequent guidelines or any needed revisions to the online review procedure. We will also continue to discuss whether the website currently housed at Brockport is 'ready' to be transferred to System Administration.
- Twenty-one proposals were submitted by the due date with most proposals coming from the doctoral granting campuses.

Chancellor's Excellence Awards:

- The Awards Committee Chair and members of System Administration continue to receive queries from campuses seeking CEAs for those with qualified academic rank (e.g., adjunct, visiting, research, clinical professors, among others). Again, since their inception, the CEAs have only been for full-time tenured or tenure-track instructional faculty. Many campuses continue to seek clarification on this point even though the guidelines have been refined several times to clarify and emphasize this point. We continue to encourage campuses to create their own recognition awards to commend part-time or qualified academic rank faculty. Some examples of local awards have been shared with campuses seeking such information.
- The Awards' guidelines require nominated individuals to have been in three consecutive years of full-time service just prior to a nomination. An unintended consequence has been a delay in nominating individuals who had certain leaves (e.g., sabbatical, maternity, or similar). The Committee adopted new language to allow campuses to create nominations based upon achievements from at least three years of full time service out of the five years just prior to nomination. The guidelines for the next two academic years will have such language.

Distinguished Faculty Ranks:

- System Liaison Kraushaar and Chair Michael met with the Faculty Council of Community Colleges committee that handles distinguished faculty ranks. The long standing process has been for the nominations for Distinguished Teaching or Distinguished Service Professor to be reviewed by ad hoc groups of individuals of

equivalent rank who rated the candidates, but did not discuss or vote on the nominated individuals. This is in contrast to the nominations for Distinguished Professor. The DP nominations have gone to an Advisory Council that discusses and votes upon the nominations. Liaison Kraushaar described the planned attempt to bring some uniformity to the evaluations for all distinguished faculty ranks by creating comparable Advisory Councils for all ranks. This will allow for a more thorough and transparent review of nominations. The FCCC committee welcomed the new procedure.

- The guidelines for the next two academic years will describe the Advisory Council process, including how members are selected. The original plan was for members to be selected from a pool nominated by campus presidents. Acting upon a suggestion made at the last plenary, nominations will also be invited from the University Faculty Senate. If the President of the UFS or the Awards Committee Chair have distinguished rank themselves, they will also be invited to serve on the appropriate Advisory Council.
- It is clear from continued queries from campuses and comments about some past promotions that many are still not clear about the guidelines for promotion to Distinguished Service Professor. DSP is not for service that is compensated, such as serving as a vice president, provost, dean, or assistant/associate versions thereof. This has been such a troublesome area that the guidelines for the next two years will include more detail about this aspect of the qualifications, perhaps including a specific list of administrative titles that render the candidate ineligible. Language will also need to be crafted so that campuses understand that it is also not appropriate to nominate such individuals who have returned to the regular faculty, but for which the dossier is built upon service while serving in the compensated administrative roles.

Members & Liaisons:

- Sandra D. Michael (chair), Binghamton
 - Valentin Brimkov, Buffalo State
 - Karen Bromley, Binghamton
 - Iris Cook, Westchester CC
 - Kulathur Rajasethupathy, Brockport
 - Nand Relan, Stony Brook
 - Alfred Stamm, Oswego
 - Renata Barneva, Fredonia
 - Larry Labinski, U Buffalo
 - Linda Hamell, ESC
 - Danniell Marrone, Farmingdale
 - Jack Termine, Downstate Medical
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- System Liaisons:
 - Robert, Kraushaar, Chancellor's Awards & Distinguished Professorships
 - Catherine Regan, Conversations in the Disciplines