Academic Senate Research and Professional Development Committee Fall 2010 Quarterly Report

During the Fall 2010 quarter, the committee met every other week for about 90 minutes. We had no CAED representative during this quarter.

This report briefly describes the issues discussed in the meetings.

Resolutions Submitted

- None

Charges from the Senate Chair

During this quarter, the committee addressed the following charges it was given by the Senate chair at the beginning of the Academic Year:

Human Subjects in Research

- Continue review of current policy regarding research and human subjects – Senate Chair continues to hear complaints from faculty members who think the procedures outlined in the policy are outdated and timelines for approval are problematic. Some faculty members have suggested that the policy ought to be separated from the procedures, and either or both be updated. Develop methodology to allow for anonymous reporting of concerns from faculty as part of the review. Make recommendation to Senate to endorse the policy as it is, or to revise it in light of feedback from faculty members.
  - Resolution due to Senate office early Winter 2012

Most of the effort during the Fall quarter was spent on this topic. In continuation of work done by the committee during the previous academic year, we evaluated the results of a survey conducted during the Spring 2011 quarter. This led to the formulation of a draft resolution, which we are planning to submit to the Senate in the Winter 2012 quarter.

Support for the Implementation of the Teacher-Scholar Model at Cal Poly

- Develop a list of support mechanisms to better implement the teacher-scholar model.

We spent most of the second meeting of the quarter on October 10 on an initial discussion of this topic, but decided to postpone further work on it until Winter 2012. The discussion identified a number of aspects that are likely to affect implementation, and attempted to outline the scope of our effort, since it relates to some recently concluded and ongoing activities such as the joint WASC-Senate task force on the Teacher-Scholar-Model, and the Cal Poly Strategic Plan. We identified the following documents as particularly relevant to this charge:

- WASC Report and the respective Resolution on Defining and Adopting the Teacher-Scholar Model by the WASC/Academic Senate Teacher-Scholar Model Task Force, which was accepted by the Senate on March 8, 2011
- AS-691-09 Resolution on Research and Professional Development at Cal Poly, which was based on a R&PD Committee Report to the provost in 2008
- Self-Study Report produced by the WASC team
- Cal Poly Strategic Plan
- Similar documents by other institutions

Franz Kurfess

Chair, Academic Senate Research and Professional Development committee

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