

**Joint Council of Academic Deans/Faculty Senate Meeting
March 30, 2011**

Summary and Action Items

Computer Refresh Cycle

The Faculty Senate has been interested in the procedures used to allocate computers during the computer refresh cycle, particularly this year when the budget for the cycle has been cut and the method for distribution changed. We have met with Dr. C. Van Wyatt and Dr. Nielsen on this topic to understand the allocation to the Colleges. We would appreciate if each Academic Dean would describe how the allocation is made from their office to the Departments in their College.

Discussion: The faculty requested information on how the allocations were made in the individual colleges. Each Dean described the process they followed. Processes included: percentage allocated to the Chairs/Directors on the number of eligible positions or allocated to individual faculty using historical data on who was eligible to receive a new computer. Some printer money was used to cover computer purchases. Colleges using primarily MACs reported that since MACs cost more their budgets buy less computers.

Role of Service

The Faculty Senate expressed concerns several years ago regarding the effect of the decreasing emphasis on service in Tenure and Promotion processes as well as the annual Merit evaluations. The results of the diminished emphasis is now manifesting in increasing difficulty to obtain volunteers to serve in any capacity. The Faculty Senate would welcome input from the Deans on how the Faculty, the Deans, and the Administration can help us value a culture of service at this University.

Discussion: Dr. Debra Feakes stated that the small amount of credit for service has hurt the number of faculty willing to serve on committees or Faculty Senate. The bulk of service is being done Associate Professors.

How service is evaluated for merit and tenure and promotion and rebuilding the culture of recognizing service and giving incentives for service was discussed. Full Professors should be expected to take an active role in service. Administrators need to recognize service with personal notes to faculty.

Dr. Gene Bourgeois asked each Dean to review merit policies in their departments to make sure service is recognized.

Dr. Bourgeois will follow up with the Faculty Senate on a plan to further explore valuing service and recognizing it in merit and tenure and promotion decisions.

Graduate Recognition

The Faculty Senate has been asked to provide recommendations for the University commencement ceremonies. As a result of these discussions, the Provost has proposed some modifications to the ceremonies; however, the Faculty Senate believes that the recognition of the graduate students would best be served by the individual Colleges. The Faculty Senate would appreciate input on how this recognition could be achieved.

Discussion: Changes proposed by Provost and President: Doctoral candidates will have their diplomas and hoods presented individually on stage. Only one doctoral student will be on the stage at one time. Masters degrees will be conferred separately from the undergraduate degrees. A graduate banner will be purchased to be displayed during the graduate diploma presentation. The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) cohort graduates will be hooded on the floor. Proposed changes are welcomed by the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Moore encouraged the Deans to have hooding ceremonies for their Master degree students. One Dean expressed the need for funds to host a reception with the hooding ceremonies. Dr. Bourgeois will research this request.