

Minutes of the Faculty Handbook Committee
December 11, 2017

The meeting convened at 11:30am with the following members in attendance: Max Grivno (chair), Sam Bruton, Subrina Cooper, Leisa Flynn, Faye Gilbert, David Holt, Doug Masterson, Sharon Rouse, and Tisha Zelner. Jonathan Barron was absent.

The committee discussed whether to accept the services of Professor Emeritus David Beckett, who had made a proffer to the University President to serve as an advisor or *ex officio* member to the Faculty Handbook Committee. After a lengthy discussion, Bruton moved and Flynn seconded a motion that the committee would decline to have Beckett serve in a formal capacity as either an advisor/historian or as an *ex officio* member. The committee may call on Professor Beckett if it believes his expertise is needed to resolve specific issues and/or questions.

The committee then moved to a discussion of whether or not it should proceed with its work during the spring of the 2017-18 academic year, or whether it should delay that work until the fall of 2018, by which time the plans for reorganization will have further crystallized. Grivno relayed a summary of a December meeting with Provost Steve Moser, during which they discussed goals and priorities for the Faculty Handbook Committee. At that meeting, the Provost indicated that he would like to see as much of the handbook rewritten as possible this spring, with a strong preference to see those parts of the handbook concerning tenure and promotion updated before the end of the current academic year. It was the unanimous sense of those present that the committee should proceed with its work this spring and not delay their work until the fall of 2018.

There was also a discussion of the progressive discipline policy. Again, Grivno noted that Provost Moser would like to see this completed during the current academic year. This work will be complicated by the fact that the Employee Handbook's discipline policies are being revised by a separate committee, and the discipline policies in both the Faculty Handbook and Employee Handbook will need to align with each other. Cooper will be adding additional materials concerning faculty discipline to the committee's Drop Box so that the members can begin addressing this matter in January 2018.

The committee is awaiting the appointment of an additional member to replace Grivno, who is resigning from his position. Once the position is filled, the committee will elect a new chair, presumably at its next meeting.

Finally, the committee then decided to meet on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 to continue planning its work for the spring. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.