

Elected Faculty Council

Minutes – Meeting of February 25, 2003, 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Present: Tom Rietz (chair), Bob Forsythe (visitor), Tim Lowe, Forrest Nelson, Frank Schmidt, Rick Tubbs, and Chuck Whiteman, (Secretary of the day).

At its February meeting, the EFC considered a number of agenda items.

Item 1: Recommendations Clarifying Expectations of Academic Integrity. The Council considered a draft document outlining student and faculty expectations for group and individual work, attribution of sources, academic honesty, etc. Further input from Council members on the draft was taken and the matter referred to a subcommittee of Nelson, Tubbs, and Whiteman for further consideration and production of a new draft.

Item 2: Grading Guidelines Recommendations. The council discussed suggestions that have been made in various departments and programs that recommended grade distributions be published. Discussion focused on whether this issue might best be pursued on a programmatic basis. Council chair Tom Rietz agreed to request information from the programs regarding progress on this issue. The UPO has subsequently proposed a grading recommendation and conducted a faculty vote.

Item 3: Report on Use of Teaching Evaluations. Frank Schmidt collected surveys taken by council members of college administrators regarding the use of student evaluations of teaching. A draft tabulation of survey results is in progress.

Item 4: Report on EFC Bylaws Revision. The EFC Bylaws revision subcommittee (Nelson, Schmidt) distributed a draft of the Bylaws revision. Discussion of the council centered on eligibility for service on the council and voting guidelines. The subcommittee will take this input and produce another draft to be considered by the council. It is expected that a vote of the faculty on the bylaws revision will be conducted in the near future.

Item 5: Report from the Executive Committee Meeting. Forrest Nelson reported on the February Executive Committee meeting. Principal points involved the career center and the faculty survey regarding the holding of classes on Thanksgiving break.

Item 6: Report from the Elected Staff Council Meeting. Chuck Whiteman reported on the February ESC meeting. Plans of the EFC include a follow-up to FISH, and a spring professional clothing drive. The end of year celebration is being planned.

Item 7: Discussion on Request to Define "Research Active" Faculty. This matter was tabled.

Item 8: Other Business. No other business was brought forward.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm. The next meeting is a bring-your-own brown bag lunch in C168 from 11:30-1:00 on Tuesday 3/25.