BFW Meeting  
September 6, 2017

Lisa Gabbert/CHASS, co-chair; Ali Cook/BUS, co-chair; Dale Wagner/EDUC; Bob Brown/SCI; Patrick Belmont/CNR; Shawn Olson/EXT; Ralph Meyer/AG; Jennifer Duncan/LIB, chair-elect

1.) We engaged in a discussion about the charge of the BFW committee. It appears that the committee used to be much more active. In the past, President Albrecht would provide information regarding university budgetary concerns, including pre-legislative and post-legislative updates. Last year the group only met once, regarding how to distribute merit. Historically, BFW has been used as the sounding board to give feedback to the president’s exec team, but ultimately, we must remember that we are a sub-committee of faculty senate and our role is advisory. We aren’t sure what it means that we participate in the budget preparation process. General perception of the group was that we should be involved with issues pertaining to the following: salaries/merit; developing the annual legislative ask; questions related to financial exigency and RIF; university program approvals; faculty benefits including insurance; post-tenure review code changes. Our goal this year will be to figure out how we get information about the budget and how to provide input back to the university—ACTION ITEM: Ali will be in touch with Larry and Noelle to find out what Noelle expects from this committee, what administration understands the historical role to have been, what our direction should be, and how to get access to the data.

2.) A question arose about the Benefits Advisory Committee and the fact that BFW should have faculty representation. It appears that the SEA has two representatives. ACTION ITEM: Co-chairs will email Dave Cowley regarding this committee and find out what our role is and if we can’t get representation on it.

3.) We discussed the benefits of getting BFW more involved with reviewing program proposals. ACTION ITEM: Co-chairs will communicate with EPC to make sure we are back in the loop.

4.) The group briefly discussed the new post-tenure review policy.

5.) Jennifer asked if the committee would come up with a timeline and an annual plan for future chairs so that new committee members aren’t left in the same situation we find ourselves.

6.) The group generally agreed that while BFW has been somewhat moribund over the past two years, we have the potential to be more influential by providing the Senate and our University administration more faculty input on important matters regarding the budget. The role of the committee this year will be to get BFW back on track.