

Department Heads Council

October 28, 2008

Odum Library 1604

Members in Attendance: Jim Baxter (Chemistry), Michael Capece (Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice Department with Marriage & Family Therapy), Carl Cates (Communication Arts), Fred Downing (Philosophy & Religious Studies), Bob Gannon (Biology), Mike Griffin (Kinesiology & Physical Education), Phyllis Holland (Management), Don Leech (Curriculum, Leadership, & Technology), Rej Martinez, Jr. (Adult & Career Education), A. Blake Pearce (Art), Jim Peterson (Political Science), Mylan Redfern (Mathematics & Computer Science), Paul Riggs (History), J.A. Shrader (Music), Mark Smith (English), Viki Soady (Modern and Classical Languages), Barbara Stanley (Middle, Secondary, Reading & Deaf Education), Anita Hufft for Jean Temple (College of Nursing)

Dr. Mark Smith, Chair of the DHC, opened the meeting at 4:02 pm. He recognized Dr. Mylan Redfern, DHC Liaison with the Faculty Senate. Dr. Levy had suggested that the DHC consider a resolution brought up in the Faculty Senate by Dr. Michael Davey. The resolution calls for Plant Operations to maintain A/C service in academic buildings during weekends, in the warmer months. The excessive heat in West Hall during weekends was a primary concern of the authors of this resolution. Faculty members doing work in their offices during the weekends found the conditions to be difficult if not unbearable. The problem continued into Monday mornings on many occasions and made the start of the week difficult for students, faculty, and staff. During the ensuing discussion, it was pointed out that the shut-off on weekends had taken place in order to cut costs. Since a number of DHC members questioned whether any substantial savings occurred, the group empowered Dr. Redfern to contact Mr. Ray Sable in order to find out how much money was actually saved during the weekend shut-downs. In the near future the DHC will work on a statement that expresses concern about creating an effective communications process that would link expression of faculty concerns with decisions by Plant Operations. During the discussion similar points were made about communication of faculty perspectives on topics such as creation of super-sections.

Dr. Smith also passed on a request from Ms. Gala Jackson for a faculty representative who could work with transfer students in the residence halls.

Dr. Smith then turned the floor over to Dr. Rey Martinez, who had organized a Workshop/Panel on Faculty Evaluation. DHC members from each of the five colleges had prepared remarks to stimulate discussion.

Dr. Anita Hufft, Dean of the College of Nursing, described how her college handled the matter of evaluation of faculty members. Dr. Jim Peterson, Arts and Sciences (Political Science) then described the process in that College and Department. The hour being late, Dr. Martinez

suggested that the discussion continue at a future meeting with presentations by Dr. Pearce (College of the Arts), Dr. Leech (James L. & Dorothy H. Dewar College of Education), and Dr. Holland (Harley Langdale, Jr. College of Business Administration).

Dr. Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Peterson, Recording Secretary