

FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

College of Education and Human Development

Meeting Minutes

Nov. 11th, 2019 (2:30-3:30 p.m.)

801A Harrington Tower

- I. Greetings and introductions. Drs. Gagne, Harvey, Matthews, Musoba and Nafukho. Dr. Woosley attended APT contract discussion.
- II. Approved previous meeting minutes.
- III. Next meeting is TBA in December. Dr. Zhang will not attend and this will be Dr. Matthews's last meeting (need a new TLAC representative).
- IV. HLKN still working on a replacement for Mike Greenwood.
- V. Multiple Year Contracts for APT Faculty (James Woosley). Please review national data here: <https://www.aaup.org/data-visualizations-contingent-faculty-us-higher-education>. Dr. Woosley shared data on APT contracts at Texas A&M and nationally, as well as information from our Dean of Faculty. Dr. Nafukho shared Indiana University's plan for updating their APT contracts as well. FAC has been charged with making a recommendation to the Dean based on proposed guidelines and relevant background. This information will be developed over the next few months then shared with CEHD faculty before presenting to the Dean.
- VI. Jia Wang organized our Qualitative Research Panel scheduled for Tuesday, October 29th from 12-1 PM in Rudder 510. You should have received an email to register. Lunch will be included. So far 34 have registered which means it is unlikely we will open up registration to doctoral students (40 is the limit for the event). Jaime will send another reminder email soon.
- VII. Scholars@TAMU. See Fred's email.

VIII. Dean Alexander would like us to continue to discuss issue of summer salary. Dr. Bloomfield's comments to CPI on the 2.5 month summer salary change that she asked me to share with FAC:

To members of the CEHD Council of PI's:

Thanks for the productive discussions to all who could make our meeting time today! I agreed to send an update to all regarding our preliminary discussion of a rumored university regulation about limiting salary support covered by external grants and contracts over the summer to 2.5 month's worth.

I took our talking points to the University Research Council Executive Committee meeting, which included 4 from the VPR Office, just after our meeting, key ones including:

- At minimum, the University CPI group should be consulted during the evolution of any such policy.
- PI's expect to receive a clear rationale for such a policy, including written documentation of relevant federal policy, comments from federal auditors or similar items.
- PI's would like to know how peer institutions handle this (what about U of Michigan?).
- Such a policy doesn't make sense to PI's who very often put in way more than 40 hours/week; also regarded as dis-incentivizing to those PI's who regularly bring in high dollar projects and lots of IDC returns to the university.
- PI's need clarity on whether, if a key motivation is to bring us into compliance with federal agency guidelines, is there justification to apply said policy to funding from industry/foundation/private sources.

I got a receptive hearing at the URC Executive Committee. The VPR folks agreed we need to hear "what problem would said policy solve?" (i.e. a clear rationale). The dilemma, after some extended conversation, appears to be unclear messaging from the Provost Office in disseminating this as settled policy or not; the last word was that this policy is still under discussion between the VPR for Research (Dr. Barteau) and the Provost.

I am hopeful some message clarifying where we are in this process and how PI's might have input on it will come out sooner than later. We can continue this discussion at our November CPI meeting, if more information arrives by then. I can also share then more definitive information on how the required payment of fees for graduate students starting Fall 2020 will roll out, with implications for our grant/contract budgets.

CPI has been very active in representing the interests of our faculty since we have been made aware of this proposed change. The next step for FAC will be to solicit feedback from CEHD faculty who are PIs and determine what they would like us to do. Also, to inquire with Faculty Senate to see if they have begun working on this issue.

IX. APT faculty award nominations have been solicited (there are 10 TAMU-wide awards, 3 CEHD nominations). Dr. Zhang has information on the guidelines and rubric. Pre-nominations were submitted by 10/18 and the CEHD committee did not meet because we did not have to choose based on a small number of nominations. One nomination for full tenured professors for University Professor was also put forward, criteria reflect excellence in research, teaching and service (5 TAMU-wide awards, 1 CEHD nomination). Faculty are also encouraged to submit applications for the Presidential Transformational Teaching Grant: <https://president.tamu.edu/pttg/index.html>.

X. Dean's Council Meeting-nothing new to report.

XI. Adjourn.