

AHC-FCC MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2009

10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Children's Rehab Center, Room 488

Present: Brian Isetts (chair), Paul Olin, Cheryl Robertson, Colin Campbell, Vernon Weckwerth, Susan Berry, Stephen Downing, Peter Davies

Guest: Amelious Whyte, Chief of Staff to the Vice Provost of Student Affairs

Smoking Ban

Members welcomed Amelious Whyte from the Office of Student Affairs. He is part of the work group that was formed to gather information on attitudes towards a smoke-free campus and determine if there would be enough support from faculty, staff and students to support it. Mr. Whyte debriefed members on the project and distributed a report containing information on the background of the initiative, including statistical results from data gathered up to this point. Mr. Whyte asked members for their input and took a poll of those who would or would not support the ban.

Members discussed possible reasons behind the ban's initiative and had questions regarding no smoking parameters and what that might mean for smokers on campus. Professor Downing stated that he has not heard one negative thing regarding the ban that has already taken place on the Duluth campus and has seen some former smokers stop smoking since the ban began, at least while they are on campus. A few members agreed that they do not have enough information regarding the reasons behind the ban and the possible outcomes of such a ban to be able to support it.

Approval of Minutes: The December minutes were unanimously approved.

Academy for Excellence in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning:

Chair Isetts asked members for external review candidate references. Members discussed a couple of candidate possibilities but would need to check into their eligibility. Isetts asked members to send him the names of any possible candidates within the next few days so the external review panel could be assembled.

Isetts gave a brief description of each award nominee to members prior to discussions, including what they should look for when considering a candidate. The committee reviewed nominees and voted on whether to accept them as an eligible candidate.

Isetts informed members that combining the Academy for Excellence in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award ceremony with that of the Academy for Excellence in Health Research were being considered, primarily for financial reasons. Members discussed why the two awards were presented separately to begin with, which was to give each discipline its own recognition but didn't think combining the ceremonies would detract from either award.

Other Business

Vernon Weckwerth, School of Public Health will be the host of this month's Third Thursday, January 15, 2009.

The State of the AHC Address has been postponed.

Chair Isetts adjourned meeting at 11:30

Lisa Towry
University Senate Office