Minutes
Collegiate Council Meeting
Friday, March 26, 2010

In Attendance: Dean Harris, Dean Rutherford. Professors Aldoory(Chair), Colantuono, Kerstein, Lansbury, Richardson, Smiley, Stehle, Williams, and Ziff.

1. The minutes from the February meeting will be distributed for amendment and approval via email.

2. Dean Harris’s Remarks:

- The State Budget is still in question. We should not expect resolution until late in the process.

- The Provost did say to plan on a 2% cut to the base budget, as well as 2% for reallocation.

- It appears that a 3% tuition increase is in store. Summer and Winter term courses will also increase by 3%.

- The Dean urges Committee members to remind their Departments of the April 2 deadline on reallocation proposals.

- General Education: It is important to read the information on General Education reform that is available. Implementation issues remain unresolved, including both timing and funding of initiatives. Of particular concern for ARHU, the removal of the SAT exemption from Freshman Writing and development of Analytic Reasoning courses will require considerable support. Course load issues and the increased burden on teaching assistants are also key issues.

- The Digital Humanities search was very successful. The Committee identified outstanding candidates and Departments are negotiating with candidates at the time of this meeting. There will likely be three rather than two positions, with ranks variable.

- Other Searches: Hires in Arabic (Assist.), Japanese (Assist.), Persian (Imminent). Linguistics is currently searching for faculty in the fields of Cognitive Neuroscience and Mathematical Psycho-Linguistics (Please correct me if I got this wrong). Philosophy is searching for a position in Formal Epistemology (Assist.). Spanish, Music Education, and Music/Piano are also conducting searches. History is beginning a search for an Associate Professor, and Theater and English both hired Associate Professors this year.

- The Rhetoric search will re-start next year due to a decision not to go to the second or third ranked candidate. Dean Harris emphasized the importance,
especially in economic times like these, of hiring the top candidate in searches. Professor Ziff added that the criticality of getting the top candidate depends on the definition of the search and how closely the candidates are ranked.

3. Dean Rutherford’s Remarks:

- Some technical difficulties remain with the FAR system. They are being worked out. The deadline has been extended to April 2. Report problems to John Buczek-Dreier johnbd@umd.edu. He is the technical expert.

- Standing committees:

- APT in process. There are six cases put forth for promotion to Associate Professor with tenure. There are nine cases for promotion from Associate to Full Professor on the way. New hires with rank of Associate Professor will come through later in spring.

- Looking ahead, the Council will vote to approve/ratify standing committee reports. Also, the Council should elect officers for next year before the end of this academic year.

4. Professor Aldoory reminded members that the ARHU Faculty Forum will take place on Thursday April 8 from 1:00 – 3:00 in 1100 Tawes. The Provost will speak and answer questions from 1 – 2. Faculty should be encouraged to attend.

Minutes recorded by Professor W.C. Richardson