

Faculty Committee
Meeting: September 27, 2003
Minutes

Present: Austin, Lawry, Redwood, Van Delinder, Wallen
Larry Sanders (guest)

Absent: Breazile, Thornton

Lawry approved the minutes of the August 28th meeting; Wallen seconded.

The meeting began with a discussion of a 1999 study of the university's sabbatical leave policy by the Faculty Committee under the chairmanship of Larry Sanders. Sanders discussed the Faculty Council's recommendation to President James Halligan and Provost Marvin Keener to improve equity of, and opportunity for, faculty access to sabbatical leaves. Based on a conversation with Sanders, the committee decided to revise the current motion, written by Lionel Raff, to include a recommendation for an endowment to fund sabbatical leaves. The revised motion, which Lawry volunteered to draft, will also call for the university to make full contributions to a faculty member's OTRS during the period of leave; in addition, the revision will contain a clause that specifically refutes the previous, unwritten requirement that faculty members spend their sabbaticals in residence at a research location apart from their permanent addresses and outside Stillwater.

After Austin made several announcements, the committee discussed revisions to the harassment policy and outlined a timetable for sending a draft out for review. Wallen will forward all revisions to Thornton. A draft of the edited policy will be ready by the next meeting.

After a brief discussion of the bullying policy, members decided to invite Gretchen Schwartz to air her concerns at the November meeting.

The committee supported the Affirmative Action recommendation of the Staff Advisory Council and declared its unanimous support for whistleblowers (the Council's motion on this subject being unclear). The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.