Minutes [approved]
Faculty Council Committee on Fixed-term Faculty
February 10, 2012
2:00 p.m., 215 Stone Center

Present:  Irons, Kramer, Lee, Whisnant, Renner
Not Present:  DeSaix, Gilliland, Tisdale, Toews

The Faculty Council Committee on Fixed-term Faculty met on Friday, February 10, at 2:00 p.m. in 215 Stone Center. Members present approved the minutes of the January 13 meeting.

In its February meeting, the committee continued its search for an alternative title to “Master Lecturer” for the third-tier fixed term faculty rank. Several “named” titles were suggested for consideration in the January meeting, and additional names were added via email exchanges following the meeting. A list of titles suggested was presented at the meeting, and a copy is attached. Our research revealed that some of the suggestions were problematic because of limited information, historical political implications, etc.

Lloyd Kramer introduced the possibility of the Horace Williams Lecturer. Williams was a legendary and long-term teacher.

The Committee found Guion Johnson and Horace Williams to be the most compelling figures of those suggested, so it discarded the other named options. Joy suggested the possibility of the Johnson-Williams Senior Lecturer, honoring both figures.

Susan suggested that we present the Provost with some ranked options and let him choose.

The committee first supported Johnson-Williams Senior lecturer. However, members were concerned about whether she actually taught and for how long. Excellence in teaching is the central criterion for advancement in ranks for fixed-term faculty in the Arts & Sciences. Conversation then focused upon generating names of known fixed-term faculty who had strong teaching careers.

At the meeting’s conclusion, the committee assigned temporary rankings to these options:
   1. First lecturer-hyphenated-female lecturer [with names yet to be decided]
   2. Horace Williams Lecturer
   3. Senior Lecturer with Distinction

The committee planned to seek more information about outstanding fixed-term teachers and to share via email following the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m. Next meeting will be on Friday, March 15 at 2:00 p.m. in 215 Stone Center.