

Report of the Part-time Faculty Committee of the Faculty Senate for December 2017

The Part Time Faculty Committee met on Wednesday, December 13, in room 254 in Ekstrom Library.

As the committee has an opening due to the passing of Susan Peacock, Tina Marie Johnson has been added to the committee. Tina is a long time adjunct instructor with the Kent School and has been active in faculty development opportunities at the Delphi Center.

Committee chair Roy Fuller brought a report of his involvement with the Executive Committee. Roy updated the committee on the status of the parking proposal which has been in process. The committee is concerned that the ending of the Green Permit will negatively impact many part time faculty. The committee was pleased to hear that the Executive Committee is advocating for a reduced rate permit for part-time faculty, which is common at other institutions.

Roy also updated the committee on several sessions the Executive Committee has had with candidates for several leadership positions UofL is in the process of hiring.

Most of our meeting with spend in discussion around the process, or lack of process, with regard to hiring practices for part-time faculty. At the present, most part-time faculty receive contracts which mention that there is an appeals process for decisions regarding their release from employment. The Red Book also states there is an appeal process. The committee is aware that there is very little guidance and really no guidelines for chairs, deans and others who are dealing with part-time faculty, specifically with regard to which factors might be utilized to determine appropriate levels of staffing, notification of intent to not utilize part-time faculty who may have long served specific departments, and other factors relating to orientation to the university, department, and specific courses which exist in some departments, but which are non-existent or little utilized in many others.

Following the discussion, the committee agreed that developing guidelines regarding the hiring, rehiring, and release of part-time faculty is a needed and worthy project for the committee and we anticipate working with other groups in the university to determine what would be most beneficial to chairs, deans and other who hire part-time faculty. Our plan is to identify appropriate benchmark institutions, and have committee members research practices at those institutions in relation to appeals processes; job security safeguards; priority of class scheduling; causes for termination/non-renewal of contract; ranks (such as a "senior" status for experienced part-time faculty); and other areas. PTF will then develop best practices which we would plan to bring to the Faculty Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Fuller, chair