Faculty Senate

Report of the Part-time Faculty Committee September, October, November, December 2023

The following report will summarize the meetings held on Mondays, Sept. 11; Oct. 2; Nov. 6; and Dec. 4, 2023. Meetings were held on Microsoft Teams beginning at 3:30 PM.

Over the fall semester, the PT Faculty Committee were updated on, and discussed the following:

Beginning in September 2023, the committee began to finalize our plans with COSW regarding our joint effort to organize a survey of PTLs at UofL. Our last survey was completed in 2020. We decided to not utilize the PT Listserv to deploy the survey but rather IR would develop a list of all PTLs who taught during 2023 and who would receive the survey. The survey was deployed during October and November. The committee looks forward to sharing the results of this survey with the Faculty Senate and other interested parties in the near future. We appreciate the support from COSW and the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Office in this effort.

The Committee continues to explore ways to promote recognition of part-time faculty and looks forward to continued work with Faculty Affairs and the Employee Success Center to find ways to honor part-time faculty in ways that are equitable with regard to how full-time faculty and staff are recognized and honored. We are appreciative and excited to welcome Jordan Aikin to the Office of Faculty Affairs in a newly created position of Coordinator of Part Time Lecturers. This positions will support faculty affairs in a variety of ways and will assist in coordinating HR issues for part time faculty. The committee wishes to thank Cherie Dawson-Edwards for advocating for this position and for conducting a successful search to fill it. Jordan has already done some preliminary exploration of how other institutions recognize part time faculty and we look forward to working with Faculty Affairs to develop an ongoing program of recognition for part time faculty with regard to their years of service to UofL. Jordan Aikin has also updated the Part Time Faculty Handbook which was very much needed. The handbook can be found at the following link: https://louisville.edu/provost/faculty-personnel/part-time-faculty-handbook

Issues the committee plans to highlight and focus on for the immediate future include challenges regarding pay and benefits for PTLs, particularly those who teach for more than one department. Teaching for multiple departments often affects eligibility for university benefits and there appears to be no current system to identify PTLs who teach for multiple departments.

Another ongoing issue the committee hopes to research is the differing pay scales for PTLs across the various schools and units at UofL A&S has recently standardized pay, which unfortunately resulted in some departments being told they could no longer pay PTLs a rate higher than the standards established by A&S. The committee hopes to find data from all schools and units regarding current pay levels for PTL's so that we might then explore if further standardization of pay scales is desirable. As PTLs were not included in the recent staff and faculty compensations studies and we hope to fill that void with our work.

Respectfully submitted, Roy Fuller, Chair