Faculty Senate
Report of the Part-time Faculty Committee -February 5, 2024

The February of the Part Time Faculty Committee was held on Monday, February 5, 2024. The meeting was held on Microsoft Teams beginning at 3:30 PM.

The committee received updates on the proposed format revisions to the PTL contract. Jordan Aikin has been gathering information from various schools and units regarding any additional items to be included on the contract. Once the feedback gathering is complete the next steps will be to take it to Business Ops, and eventually post the updated form on the Provost website and inform units that the newly revised form is available for use.

A subcommittee of our group created a proposal calling for the creation of a program of recognition for PTLs at the University of Louisville. Our proposal is included at the end of this report. Jordan Aikin will attend a meeting later in February with stakeholders regarding this proposed program.

COSW is planning to conduct interviews/focus groups with PTLs who indicated an interest in offering additional feedback regarding their experience as part time faculty at the University. This is in follow-up to the survey of PTLs conducted in the fall of 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy Fuller, Chair

Proposal for Recognition Program for PTLs

The Part Time Faculty Committee of the Faculty Senate offers the following statement as a call for the development of a recognition program for PTLs at the University of Louisville. As full-time faculty and staff have programs which recognize years of service/teaching at the university, as advocates for equitable treatment, we call for a similar program to be developed to recognize part time lecturers who play an essential role in the academic mission of the University of Louisville.

The following are our suggestions for such a program:

1) That processes be identified /developed to identify the length of service for part time faculty. We propose that the program be retroactive, meaning that the University would recognize faculty for their past years of service as the program begins.

2) As some PTLs often don’t teach every semester, we suggest that the measure used for duration of time at the university be semesters taught, rather than years of continuous service. For example, we might begin to acknowledge people once they have taught for 10 semesters (the equivalent of 5 years).
3) Recognition at internals of every 10 semesters of teaching (equivalent to 5 years) is recommended.

4) An annual lunch/dinner to which all PTLs are invited as a small thank you for their service would provide the opportunity to recognize specific PTLs for the years of service.

5) As is the case with staff recognition, we recommend that “milestone” awards be offered to PTLs who have serviced specific periods of time. In addition, certificates or plaques acknowledging the faculty member and the number of years/semesters served should be given.