

## School of Psychology Faculty Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Present: Catrambone, DeChurch, Duarte, Durso, Embretson, Gorman, Hertzog, Moffat, Rahnev, Roberts, Rogers, Schumacher, Spieler, Thomas, Verhaeghen, Walker, Weiss (Chair), Wheeler

Administrative: Franklin, Westbrook

IT: Brown, Lefton, Filoseta

Student Reps: Laura Schaeffer

- I. Shared IT Services Proposal (Lew Lefton, College of Sciences)
  - a. A new proposal is currently being explored for reorganization of IT personnel
    - i. The proposal is still in the discussion phase, not finalized. The CoS IT management team is talking to faculty and IT personnel in regards to perceived impact
  - b. If finalized, the proposal would entail reorganizing all IT personnel in College of Sciences' Schools such that current department level IT personnel would fall under the College of Sciences instead of the individual Schools
    - i. Each School would still have designated IT personnel that manage their service tickets, but they would report to CoS instead of the Schools and may not be housed directly in the building (although they would be housed in an area that is centrally located to the Schools they support. More than likely, there would be three main geographic locations where classified staff IT personnel are located).
    - ii. This would also give the more senior IT personnel an increased number of opportunities for development and to collaborate and learn from each other
    - iii. A plan would also be implemented to cross-train personnel so that more than one person was familiar with the School's individual needs (specialized software, systems, etc.)
    - iv. The proposal also includes employing a higher number of student IT workers that could assist with the more routine service tickets (printers not working, etc.). Some student IT workers may be housed within the Schools, depending on space available, needs, etc.
      1. Employing more student IT workers would ideally free up more time for advanced IT personnel to be able to focus on strategic thinking and build up service support that better suits the faculty's needs
    - v. Overall goal of the program is to improve efficiency and offer more support/coverage (e.g. if a School only has one IT staff member and they are out sick, the new plan would offer immediate back-up support)
- II. General Department Business (Howard Weiss)
  - a. Dr. Weiss would like to congratulate Dr. DeChurch on being promoted to Full Professor

III. Budget Updates (Howard Weiss)

- a. The Dean gave a budget presentation to the Provost's office last Monday
- b. We are not sure yet what the Provost's office will ultimately decide upon in terms of percentages; however, the plans that went forward for our School primarily centered around cutting the number of graduate student assistantships
- c. The communication from up top was that this wasn't a budget cut but a budget reallocation so we also provided ideas on how we would like to get some of the funds back
- d. We did take the opportunity to raise our graduate student stipends to \$18,000 for 9 months.
  - i. New grant proposals are going out with this amount
  - ii. The stipend increase has also been communicated to our students
  - iii. Dr. Weiss also hopes to eventually implement a plan to pay graduate students more for instructor positions than TA positions since the instructor positions entail a higher level of responsibility and workload. Dr. Singleton and Dr. Stanzione are working on a general plan for instructor assignments (how many instructors we will need, etc.), which will give Dr. Weiss a better idea of whether we can offer more pay to our student instructors
  - iv. Discussion also ensued around the faculty having more input into grad student instructor assignments based on their career goals (going into academia, etc.)
    1. Dr. Weiss indicated that we will incorporate faculty feedback into the discussion around grad student instructor assignments
  - v. Discussion also ensued about grad student concerns over workload inequity with TA assignments.
    1. Dr. Singleton indicated that a survey will be going out to the faculty and student instructors soliciting guidelines on the expected workload/tasks for courses so that this can be taken into consideration when making TA assignments (e.g. some courses that have had TA's in the past may not need them, some may only need ½ TA, etc.)