Library Senate Executive Board

Meeting Minutes

Yati Paseng (chair); Gwen Sinclair (vice-chair/chair elect), Ruth Horie (UHPA), Stu Dawrs (Secretary), Allie Jordan (Elections), Susan Johnson (LPC), Jim Cartwright (MFS), Dore Minatodani (MFS).

Convoked: 10:30 a.m.

1) Approval of minutes from 5/10/11 LSEB meeting.

2) Travel funding update: Interim Associate University Librarian Alan Grosenheider requested time to meet with the LSEB in advance of the general senate meeting, to discuss travel funding. Grosenheider wants to increase amount of money available for travel and other professional development. He looked at the last four years of budgeting for travel and found the following expenditures (rounded to the nearest thousand):

FY2008: $73,000
FY2009: $79,000
FY2010: $28,000, including $10,000 spent on webinars.
FY2011: $41,000 as of last month, including $10,000 spent on webinars.

In 2009, owing to overall library budget cuts, travel was restricted to probationary faculty and to travel that supported strategic initiatives as defined by Interim University Librarian Paula Mochida.

For coming fiscal year, Grosenheider would like to again earmark $10,000 for webinars, which typically cost between $150 and $300 for a site license.

While looking at travel completion forms, Grosenheider noticed that there is a core group that travels every year, whether or not they receive funding. Others only travel occasionally. We can’t yet go back to the former policy of budgeting $1,000 per year for each faculty member, as we have an unknown budget reduction coming — he has heard that it could be in the range of 10 percent.

He is thus proposing that probationary faculty continue to receive $1,000 per year, but that tenured faculty now receive $500 per year. This would budget $35,000 for faculty initiated travel. An additional $30,000 would be set aside for Library administration-sponsored travel (travel that supports Library strategic initiatives, or that is required due to various consortial (or other) commitments on part of the Library).

Grosenheider has also discussed with Library fiscal officer John Awakuni the possibility of spreading the funding out over two years, so that probationary faculty would in effect have $2,000 to spend over the course of two years, and tenured faculty would have $1,000. He notes that while this may not be of less benefit to those who travel frequently, it will be of more benefit to those who travel less often by
allowing travelers to lump two years’ worth of funding into one trip if necessary. Two year funding would create some challenges for library administration in terms of budgeting and tracking, but both Awakuni and Grosenheider are willing to explore the possibility, and see a good possibility of it working. LSEB expresses general agreement that this is a good idea given the current funding situation.

Cartwright notes that while webinars can be valuable learning tools, in terms of tenure and promotion activities, TPRC’s generally will place more weight on in-person conference/workshop attendance and participation than they will on webinar attendance. Grosenheider acknowledges the value of in-person attendance, but also notes the reality of the funding situation means that webinars will in some cases be the best viable alternative.

Dawrs asks if there may be a way to look into pooling funding on the department level, so that faculty who know they won’t be traveling can share their funding with others who will.

Minatodani points out that departmental sharing of travel funds would put smaller departments at a disadvantage.

A more general discussion ensues regarding other possibilities of pooling/sharing funding.

Grosenheider to present proposal to full faculty at next meeting.

3) Reports:

Chair: No report.

Vice-Chair: No report.

Secretary: No report.

LPC: No report.

Elections Committee Report (Jordan): Senate roster needs to be updated for voting. Paseng suggests contacting Ann Marcia Ishiki for information on approved sabbaticals. Jordan will send excel file to faculty and ask for updates.

UHPA Report (Horie): Ruth Horie has been helping Dore Minatodani to research the history of the B faculty classification for librarians. They met with UHPA executive director J.N. Musto and associate executive director Kris Hanselman on June 6, and UH archivist Jim Cartwright on June 7.


Manoa Faculty Senate Report (Minatodani): Minatodani reports that she and Horie have been researching history of faculty classifications. MFS Committee on Research introduced motion to change faculty classification from current system of five different classifications to one classification. Concern was expressed by some specialists over what this meant. It is not clear why this is coming up. Committee on Research says it was asked to look at “I” and “R” classifications by a vice-chancellor’s office. They
expanded the charge to look at all classifications.

At the last MFS meeting, the motion was tabled until the fall. One of the written comments from standing senate committees asked for more information, including how these classifications came to be.

Minatodani notes that in order for classifications to be changed it would have to go to Board of Regents. Tenure criteria would have to be changed.

Horie notes that the only way to remove a classification is through legislation, as they are codified in state law.

4) **New business:** None.

Meeting adjourned 11:10 a.m.

Submitted by Dawrs