

Meeting of Administrators with Faculty Handbook Committee Members
Tuesday, February 20, 2007, 8:00-9:00 a.m.

The minutes of the meeting of February 6, 2007 were approved.

Several changes to the document “Proposed Changes to Part IV [of the Faculty Handbook]: Personnel Policies, version LE 2/20/07” were proposed and accepted. It was agreed that members of the Faculty Handbook Committee will discuss the revised document with department chairs in order to discover any remaining “sticking points.” At the same time the revised document will be sent to Fr. Niehoff as basis for an amendment to the Faculty Handbook.

Sally reminded us that we had decided to leave the reference to fringe benefits in the Faculty Handbook unchanged.

Sally then asked us to proceed to the discussion of clinical faculty. Sally had talked to Miles Coburn who pointed out that the materials relating to clinical faculty supplied by the Education and Allied Studies and Accountancy departments had been referred to the Rank, Tenure, and Salary Committee of the Faculty Forum, as requested at the special Forum meeting on September 23, 2004. This committee had requested additional information and clarification from these departments but has not received a response so far.

A preliminary discussion of the advantages and disadvantages to students and faculty of having clinical faculty took place. Frank indicated that this was an important issue for our Business School, particularly in relation to continued accreditation. He said that he will distribute information explaining the differences between participating and supporting clinical faculty as well as professionally as opposed to academically qualified faculty.

Sally mentioned concerns expressed by a number of people with respect to AAUP guidelines relating to tenure and how this might affect the hiring of clinical faculty. She will also obtain information from the Education Department concerning their need for clinical faculty and what NCATE might have to say on this topic.

Bob asked why clinical faculty should not be tenurable, especially in light of their educational importance, as mentioned by Frank. Bob also stated that we should think carefully about what kind of university we want JCU to be and how the introduction of clinical faculty might change this.

Brenda mentioned that “returning lecturers” who could be used in the English department, for example, might be treated as second-tier faculty. They could be exploited by the university, although the individuals might see a temporary benefit of accepting these positions.

Submitted by Klaus Fritsch