

Contract (or Non Tenure Track) Faculty Task Force

Spring 2011

Interim Report to the University Senate

Chair: Holly Huffman

Members: Jay Abramson, Denise Bodman, Sherry Cisler, Christi Coursen, David Forsyth, Barbara Fargotstein, Mirna Lattouf, JoAnn Mulvihill, Ann Sebren, Jeffrey Thomas, Jacqueline Wheeler

In the Spring semester, 2010, Senate President Rojann Alpers created an ad hoc committee of non-tenure track (NTT) faculty with the general charge to provide a mechanism whereby the NTT faculty can self-identify and bring to the Senate specific issues that influence them.

This committee has been a work intensive committee. Over the past academic year, we:

1. Met at least monthly to discuss issues and work on tasks identified by the committee and our constituents
2. Gathered information pertaining to non-tenure track faculty from other universities, as well as our own and conducted research into national trends in faculty service issues
3. Held several open forums on all campuses to give voice to the NTT faculty and identify special concerns
4. Created a webspace to keep NTT faculty informed of matters pertaining to them
5. created a listserv of NTT faculty to maintain open communication; and
- 6.. Developed and administered a survey for NTT faculty at ASU. We received responses from approximately 40% of our constituents. The data confirmed the assumption that NTT faculty are deeply committed to excellence and the teaching mission at ASU and additionally that they are embedded in all aspects of university service including graduate education, service on graduate committees, shared governance and unit administration. Most are engaged in their professional fields and scholarly activities. Most consider their positions at ASU to be their long-term careers.

As a result of our efforts, we have determined that NTT faculty are deeply engaged at every academic level, including units, colleges, the university at large, in our communities and professions. Together with the tenure track faculty, NTT faculty are working hard to accomplish the missions of the university and provide an outstanding education for both graduate and undergraduate students.

The Task Force is in the process of preparing a final report of their findings, recommendations and requests for Senate action and are awaiting some additional statistical information from the University, as well as the results of a national survey (by CAW) that was completed in the fall of 2010 and is expected to be published any time now.

The task force, therefore, requests an extension of our charter so that we may continue our work and complete our report in Fall, 2011. At that point, we would like to present our findings to the entire Senate.

We also express our appreciation for the opportunity to look more deeply into this area and for the support we have received from our tenured and tenure track colleagues and Senate leadership and staff.

The slide presentation from the Spring 2011 campus NTT forums may be found at <http://usenate.asu.edu/NTE> (or the Senate website under Documents), a summary of the survey results are included there.

Respectfully submitted:

Dr. Holly Huffman

May 5, 2011