

9/14/2021

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jose Luis Antinao, Israel Herrera (co-chairs), Akram Habibulla, Emma Dederick, Chad Eagleton (BFC-Office), Adam VanDeusen, Michael Brose.

-Items for Discussion:

1. Scheduling
 2. Presentation of Exec Committee charges.
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- 1- Meeting started promptly at 4PM via Zoom. After brief introductions by all attending members, and explaining the modus operandi, a brief discussion about scheduling followed.

At the discussion about scheduling, Adam mentioned the possibility of Thursdays afternoon working but only after 4.45 pm. Other members will not be able to attend those dates.

- 2- Charges by the BFC Executive Committee were introduced to members. Link for the 2021-22 report where charges appear:
https://indiana.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/msteams_f2957b/Shared%20Documents/General/2022-2023/2021-2022%20report.docx?d=w46becadc53cd48f9a21410deb346b84&csf=1&web=1&e=j3RjmQ

Michael Brose started the discussion questioning the effectiveness of this committee; are we really making a difference? Do we understand the position of senior administration on international support for faculty? Do we know (and can affect) how are the Gateways being configured now, how are the official exchanges being supported? Apparently OVPIA has been radically reconfigured. These changes impact faculty. Does this committee have any weight in these measures? Is there a way to measure the effectivity of this committee?

Emma Dederick suggested that we can only assess the committee work once we have a functioning, fully structured committee.

Members agreed that the lack of an appointed ex-officio OVPIA member now is troubling, a sign of changes made by administration to OVPIA.

Emma Dederick supported ideas expressed and discussed during the past year in the committee. If we want to work and be as effective as e.g., the Athletics committee, we should have the upper administration talk to us, and therefore we can provide that advisory role to them, hopefully guiding what they are implementing. Following the analogy with the Athletics committee, this involves the committee acting in a watchdog role.

J.L. Antinao stated that on last year's report, there is already some statements along the lines of 'administrators should give periodic talks about activities, including OVPIA/OIS/OOS'.

Michael Brose stated that in this role in which we would request information that otherwise faculty does not have available, that role could be more efficient.

Members also discussed that to make a structure work for the committee, one strong option is to make membership semipermanent and request term service, stagger participation.

Israel commented that right now this is not an elected committee, it is only a Standing Committee.

Emma posted the committee structure and how it is defined. Jose Luis suggests that we could define the structure during this year. This is something that was discussed last year.

Israel mentions that the co-chairs will work to address representation by OVPIA, and the lack of response within last week (chairs sent a note to Hannah Buxbaum on Sep. 7).

Israel mentioned towards the end that we need to address the issue of international student representation.

End of meeting at 5:10 PM