**Faculty Affairs Council Year-end Report, 2011-2012**

**Members: Ben Tholkes, Beverly Collins, Bill Yang, Christopher Cooper, Dan Clapper, Elizabeth Heffelfinger, Leigh Odom, Leonardo Bobadilla, Leroy Kauffman, Lisa Briggs, Mark Stoffan, Mary Kay Waters, Heidi Buchanan (chair)**

**Accomplishments**

Responding to concerns raised at the fall Faculty Caucus, worked with members of IT, Human Resources, and the Campus Attorney’s office to extend IT access for fixed-term faculty. Revisions were made to Policy 95, Data Network Security and Access Control, which will go before Executive Council for final approval on August 27, 2012.

Passed a resolution and worked with the Provost’s office to implement a workload policy within the division of Academic Affairs. The new policy states that “changes in processes or practices that are likely to cause a significant increase in faculty workload must be approved by the Office of the Provost.”

Passed a resolution requesting that Western Carolina University make finalists for positions, in particular upper-level administrators such as deans, provost, chancellor, and athletic director, publicly available and make accommodations for diverse stakeholders to meet the candidates and express their opinions

FAC and the Senate endorsed the recommendations of the child care task force, along with a draft of a family friendly policy for WCU, and passed the recommendations to the Chancellor’s Leadership Council for further discussion and action.

Approved the charge for the SAI Technical Advisory Committee: <http://www.wcu.edu/29744.asp>

Combined release dates for Summer Course Evaluations, streamlining the process.

**Pending Issues**

A possible joint resolution with the Athletics Committee regarding the institutions academic principles for Athletics.

Possible creation [with the help of CRC] of a senate committee for Adjunct Faculty issues, such as policies/procedures for promotion.

Suggest that faculty senate have a representative on Registrar’s Advisory Board. A resolution to create a task force for advising issues was not passed by FAC last year, due to the fact that Registrar’s Advisory Board already exists.

FAC Chair was approached with a hard copy of a white paper regarding copyright issues for digital materials/objects. Chair asked for an electronic copy of the white paper in order to distribute to committee, but received no response.

**Pending Items from 2010-2011**

David McCord and Chris Cooper met to discuss the responsibilities of 9-month faculty in the summer. They will write up a resolution and will try to bring it for a vote early next year.

At the end of the year, we were asked to look into a variety of issues surrounding the bookstore and whether our current policies are sustainable given changes in technology. We plan to reassess these issues in the fall.

We were asked to consider whether the University has (or should have) a policy regarding course assessments outside of the SAI. In other words, if a department or faculty member wants to conduct a separate evaluation, are they allowed to do so? Should they be allowed to do so?

We were asked to look into issues surrounding parental leave.