

the 411 on Academic Affairs

Faculty Evaluation Ad-Hoc Committee

One of the things that was brought up during the first few weeks in my time as Interim Provost was the strong desire to review and recommend changes to the faculty evaluation process. The ad-hoc committee consisting of Professor Ellie Bunting, Dr. Eileen DeLuca, Dr. Sabine Eggleston, Professor Heather Olson, Dr. Martin Tawil, Professor Anthony Valenti, Professor Myra Walters, and I worked over the past 6 weeks and developed a set of recommendations for the faculty evaluation process. The revised process includes an annual evaluation for faculty on track for a continuing contract with a self-evaluation and supervisor evaluation component. Another major shift is in the portfolio review. The recommendation is to include a peer review process which includes two faculty members from the applicants unit as well a 3rd member selected by the applicant being reviewed. The committee feels these revisions provide faculty with the opportunity to provide narrative supported by evidence to enhance their application for a continuing contract. We look forward to feedback from faculty as these recommendations move forward and hopefully will be included in the new CNA which is now being negotiated.

CNA Negotiations

I am pleased with the initial discussions and progress as we begin the negotiations of faculty contract. There have been many preliminary discussions and as of today, one formal negotiation session. Both sides have committed to working together to find common ground and to keeping the process open and transparent by keeping a Web site updated on the status and progress of the negotiations as well as which articles have been tentatively agreed to. We invite everyone to be part of this process.

Retiring Faculty

We would like recognize those faculty who have retired or will be retiring during 2015 – 2016 and let them know how much we appreciate their dedication and hard work for our students and for FSW.

Melanie LeMaster, Academic Success, 8/3/90-8/5/16

Dennis DiSarro, EMS, 8/16/12-5/6/16

Douglas Nay, School of Business, 8/16/07-8/15/15

Ronald Smith, School of Pure and Applied Sciences, 1/6/84-12/15/15

2016 Commencement

Commencement is one of the highlights of each academic year. On Friday, May 6, we will celebrate the accomplishments of our students with Commencement at Germain Arena. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 6:00 pm. Please plan to arrive between 5:00 and 5:15 pm for preparations. Ushers and signs will help direct faculty to the correct location, which is down the right corridor of the arena if entered from the front lobby doors. We request that faculty come already dressed in their academic regalia. Light refreshments will be available during the waiting period before the procession.

Academic Affairs Accolades

Thanks to Dr. Russell Swanson for moderating the 22nd Biannual Symposium. These gatherings support cross-disciplinary conversation and community-building among faculty and staff. Such dialogue allows FSW to realize its value of intellectual inquiry.

Congratulations to Professor Natala Orobello and the Charlotte Campus Cultural Arts Club for hosting a successful Cultural Arts Festival. This well-attended event showcased the musical and artistic creations of Charlotte Campus Students.

FSW's College Theatre's production of "Almost Maine" by John Cariani showed off the amazing talent of our students. Directed by Dr. Stuart Brown, the play has received rave reviews.

FSW's students also showed off their talents at three recent performances as part of the FSW Student Concert Series. The FSW Concert Band and Jazz Ensembles, under the direction of Dr. Thomas Smith; the FSW Symphony Orchestra and Community Choir, under the direction of Dr. Ronald Doiron; and the FSW Concert Choir, under direction of Professor Candace Sundby; all gave outstanding performances at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall this semester.

Also, Arts@FSW presented a Faculty Music Recital in honor of Music Professor Helen Niedung, who is retiring this spring after 35 years of service to the college. Special thanks to Professor Reiko Niiya, Professor William Larsen, Dr. Thomas Smith, Dr. Ronald Doiron, Professor Mary Griffen-Seal, Professor Elena Bock, Professor Candace Baranowski-Sundby, Dr. Ken Puls, and Professor David Sundby for performing at this stellar event!

Congratulations to all of the adjunct and full-time faculty who were nominated for the Faculty of the Year Award by FSW students. The winners were announced at the Student Life Awards at each campus and center. Congratulations to Judy Sweeney (Charlotte Campus), Jim Langlas (Collier Campus), and Dr. Caroline Seefchak (Thomas Edison Campus). The Hendry/Glades Center Faculty of the Year Award will be announced at the Center's award ceremony tonight. You each deserve recognition for inspiring and motivating FSW's students.

As always, please feel free to email any questions or comments at jeff.stewart@fsw.edu.