Executive Committee Minutes – 1/23/13

Present: Steven Hirsch, Richard Eichenberg, James Ennis, Thomas Downes, Jeanne Penvenne

Absent: Karen Panetta

1) Approved minutes from December 10th meeting

2) Updates on ongoing items:
   • Athletics Committee met with Athletic Director Bill Gehling (AD), meeting was partly stimulated by outside review of athletics department that has been completed at Dean Berger-Sweeney's behest; Dean has been pushing the AD to work more with the committee; discussed idea of creating a dashboard which would be a constant source of information on the operation of the Athletics program; AD is sympathetic to the idea; discussed possibility that the committee should be the source of Tufts' representative to the NCAA; this may be a good committee to report to the faculty
   • Committee elections – will need to fill 4 positions on the Executive Committee, we need to help Committee on Committees to get names of candidates
   • Course evaluations – EPC will have something for faculty to discuss later this Spring; no discussion in EPC meetings of how return rate compares to return rate in previous years
   • Tenure and Promotion Committee (T&P) bylaw clarification and other issues

3) Lunch with Department Chairs
   • Thurs. - Tom, Karen, Ike; Fri. - Jeanne, Steve, Jim
   • How should we run meetings? - Start by giving people time to eat
   • Begin conversation with questions about governance and how committees should fit in given shifting structures (task forces, strategic plan, working groups)
   • Discussed proposed questions and whether these are good starting point for our discussions, review of those questions led to conversation about interface between interdisciplinary issues and governance
   • Basic points to cover: Are right structures in place?; Is there accountability?; Is there openness?

3) Work/Life Balance Committee bylaws
   • Discussed elements of the bylaws
   • Had a general discussion of the purview of the committee.

4) Review of Linda Abriola – Discussed content of letter from the committee

5) Reports of faculty committees at faculty meetings
   • Discussed possibility of B&P reporting at one of the Spring meetings
   • Discussed status of B&P/AAUP salary regression