

SOSA committee meeting minutes
Wednesday April 19, 2017
Education Building room 211

present: Brett BuSha, Donka Mirtcheva, Teresa Nakra, Qin Shao, Andrea Salgian, Thulsi Wickramasinghe, Bethany Sewell, Ieva Zake (Provost Designee)

absent: Sandy Gibson, James Taylor, Elizabeth Teixeira,

1. April 5 meeting minutes reviewed and approved without revisions
2. results of April 11 CFA open forum were discussed:
 - a. The purpose of the forum was to seek campus-wide feedback on our proposed changes to the SOSA RFP, rubric, and review process.
 - b. CFA members were in attendance, along with perhaps 1-2 others. There was a positive and substantial exchange, with the result that two of our proposed changes were approved without revision:
 - i. In order to provide meaningful and consistent guidance to applicants, it is proposed that feedback will be provided about each rubric element. For each proposal, average numerical scores for each rubric element (determined by averaging scores assigned across the review panel) will be converted into feedback descriptors, according to the following scheme:
0.0–0.9 = absent
1.0–2.9 = weak
3.0–3.9 = good
4.0–5.0 = strong
 - ii. The first and second rubric questions in the Qualifications and Scholarly Record section (from 10 points to 5) are replaced with the following question: “Does the scholarly/creative/professional record (supported by evidence in the annotated CV and prior SOSA reports) suggest that the applicant will be successful in this endeavor?”
 - c. SOSA members decided to cut the third section that had been discussed by CFA without resolution: Applicant CVs should reflect up to ten previous years’ worth of scholarly/creative/professional activities (still annotated as desc. in the RFP).
 - i. Members of CFA and other faculty felt that the 10-year time limit on CVs was problematic; several concerns were expressed on behalf of faculty who might have had important publications 15 years ago followed by an extended period of significant service or family obligations. Instead, they favored the idea of encouraging applicants to emphasize and prioritize the most significant work done in support of the proposal. They prefer that we limit the CV not by time, but instead by page length and relevance.
 - ii. From CFA via email afterwards: “The consensus of CFA is that the proposed ten-year CV cutoff would be highly problematic. We feel that that the idea discussed at the open forum — allowing faculty to select CV items, up to some limit, that best showcase their suitability for the SOSA project — is a good solution to that problem.”
3. Two committee members volunteered to possibly serve as vice-chair next year: Bethany Sewell and Andrea Salgian (no volunteer for chair)
 - submitted by Teresa M. Nakra
(not reviewed or approved by SOSA committee (last meeting of the year))