

TCNJ Sabbaticals Council Meeting
February 15, 2023, 1:30 pm
Minutes

Present: Mohammed Alabsi, Elizabeth Borland, Jean Brechman, Stuart Carroll, Wendy Clement, Dolores Dzubyaty, Dimitris Papamichail, Taras Pavlovsky, Yuji Tosaka
Absent: Cynthia Paces

1. Review/approval of minutes from February 1, 2023

The minutes were approved with a correction.

2. Feedback requested by candidates

The Council members reviewed written responses prepared for each candidate requesting feedback. The chair will be finalizing the letters to be sent to the candidates.

3. Items recommended for discussion this spring

a. RFP for 2023-24 including calendar/deadlines

The calendar and deadlines for the next RFP were reviewed: 09/29/23—candidates request a sabbatical application case; 10/06/23, 5 pm—application materials due in Faculty Process; 01/31/24—request for written feedback.

Dean Pavlovsky reported on the RFP feedback from the Office of Grants and Sponsored Research (OGSR) director, as well as his discussion with the Provost about revising the RFP. The Council members agreed that no major rewrites will be made for the next RFP. It was also noted that the Faculty Process cover sheet cannot be moved (the last current item for evaluation) due to the current Faculty Process limitations.

The Council members discussed the changes to the RFP suggested by Dean Pavlovsky. The new RFP will note that the appendix should not be used to include information meant for the project proposal, while post-sabbatical reports and/or other evidence of sabbatical outcomes will be listed in the review criteria under 4. Qualifications of the Applicant.

Also, the Council members reviewed the proposed revisions to clarify faculty eligibility and reflect current practice (change “All full-time, tenured faculty” to “All full-time faculty”—faculty newly promoted to Associate Professor with tenure are not technically tenured yet but can apply; add language about faculty with the modified tenure timeline due to a qualifying life event being not eligible for sabbatical application). Also, language is added explicitly to direct faculty questions about eligibility to Academic Affairs.

The draft RFP, including some other readability-based edits, will be circulated among the Council members before being voted on and sent to CFA.

Dean Pavlovsky also reported on the Provost’s suggestion about adding a question to ask candidates to notify the Council if they are unsuccessful candidates from the

previous year resubmitting applications. The Council members discussed but did not embrace the suggestion.

- b. Next meeting will be March 1 for discussing the draft Sabbaticals Council Manual and approving the new RFP.

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm.