**Committee on Faculty Affairs Minutes
April 22, 2015**

**Present:** S. Arjani, E. Borland, J. Gevertz, W. Keep, J. Neves, G. Pogue, V. Tucci (chair), P. Wiita (vice chair), T. Youngblood, I. Zake

**Excused**: O. Hernandez, J. Row, D. Shaw, S. Carroll,

**Minutes:** The minutes of the April 8, 2015, meeting were approved.

**Old business**

1. **SOSA Electronic Application:** Jill Bush and Terrence Bennett, chair and vice-chair of the SOSA committee, made a detailed presentation of the proposed process of electronic application to SOSA. All documentation regarding an application will be submitted through VIBE, a system that TCNJ expects to use also for promotion, 5-year reviews, and other personnel processes.
	1. CFA recommends that the VIBE system is set so that only PDF files are accepted to ensure the integrity of the documents submitted.
	2. The number of items, and the number of points, used in the evaluation of a SOSA application has been reduced from a maximum of 65 points to 37 points. CFA recommends that the points given to “pre-tenure or re-engaging faculty” be reduced from 2 points to 1 point in order to better preserve the relative weight of this item.
2. **Disciplinary standards for 2014 hires –** Jana briefly presented the sub-committee report (which had been previously distributed to all members via email) assessing the disciplinary standards of ten departments: African America Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Biomedical engineering, Computer Science, Educational and Secondary Education, History, Physics, Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology, and World Languages and Cultures. Minor suggestions of language were made.

**New business**

 The Steering Committee charged CFA to ask the SOSA committee to draft a preliminary recommendation on a change to SOSA Awards that was proposed by the Deans Council and Academic Affairs. The key change is to allow faculty to choose between 3 FWH each year for two years or funding up to $8,000 for two years ($4,000 each year). A lively discussion ensued focusing on the level of funding proposed and on how this change may impact other sources of funding and the character of the SOSA program. The chair will forward the proposal to the SOSA committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Joao Neves