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Faculty Searches

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Faculty Searches

Submitted by Kathleen Comerford

10/28/2009

Question:

How many lecturer versus tenure-track searches (from traditional sources, exclusive of positions generated by funds from on-line teaching) are going on this year, and what is the breakdown per college? What is the basis for determining if a position vacated by retirement, dismissal, failure to achieve tenure, or resignation would be converted to a lectureship versus remaining a tenure-track line? Are such conversions permanent?

Rationale:

The increase in the number of students--far outpacing any faculty hiring--makes all questions of searches of concern to the University as a whole. Some replacement positions have been earmarked lectureship only, yet others are continued as tenure-track lines. We should know the rationale for these decisions, for the moment as well as for future planning. We should also know whether there is any way that converted positions will be restored to the tenure track--this is an issue of great interest to faculty and students alike.

This RFI does not include a request for information on traditional temporary positions, which are in theory at least "placeholders" until tenure-track searches are approved.

Response:

10/30/2009: Provost Gary Means responded:

There are 6 Lecturer searches in CLASS and 1 in CIT. The position in CIT has always been a lecturer position. Of the 6 searches in CLASS, 4 were instructor lines and the other two were vacated by a Full Professor and an Associate Professor. The teaching disciplines are foreign languages (2), journalism, writing, sociology, history.

The positions were requested to support critical needs in general education core curriculum.