Minutes of Faculty Meeting

September 8, 2014

11:30 a.m. – 1:57 p.m.

BusAd G-201

Attendees: Shirley Daniel, Roger Debreceny, Liming Guan, Manu Ka’iama, Tom Pearson, David Wang, Mary Woollen, David Yang, Jian Zhou, Hamid Pourjalali and Marlene Sagapolutele

Guest: Christian Plesner Rossing (Copenhagen Business School)

Not in attendance: John Wendell and Boochun Jung, both on sabbatical leave; Jenny Teruya, excused

Pourjalali reported the results of meeting with faculty, students and accounting professionals. In addition to positive comments, there have also been areas of concerns that SOA will address during the next couple of years. Area of concerns were mainly related to curriculum, students’ inability to satisfy professional expectation, grade inflation, and decline in CPA passing rate. Market for accounting graduate is at best flat so placement of SOA graduates is another area of concern.

Amongst the suggestions for improvement were teaching computer coding, improving the CPA pass rate by offering additional classes, using Manoa writing facilities, and developing faculty members by providing them development funds (such as attending meetings and boot camps).

Faculty development examples: AAA’s – meeting (e.g., Auditing Bootcamp $500 for 3 days), Deloitte Trueblood cases, experimental learning, CPE programs, AICPA – unlimited on different topic.

Furthermore, a better integration of internship and online learning can help students learning. Other suggestions included: providing Honors course (Acc201); rotation of core courses among faculty, and better coordination of Acc 321/323/415 series.

To improve Acc 201 and Acc 202 coverage, Daniel suggested to include an accounting software package as part of Acc 201 and a basic spreadsheet as part of Acc 202. Marketability of our graduates can improve further by taking relevant courses (e.g., ITM) and attracting best and brightest to accounting.

SOA course offering plan was distributed to the faculty but the final decision of what would be offered each semester and during the summer school was postponed to the time when the curriculum review is complete.

Pourjalali reported that the membership for the Advisory Board is yet to be finalized and encouraged the faculty to attend the advisory board meetings. He will provide a list of SOA Advisory Board names when it is finalized. The future Advisory Board meetings are scheduled at the Pacific Club from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. for the following dates: September 24th, Dec. 3rd, March 18th, and June 3rd.

Pourjalali also reported that the average grade assigned by SOA faculty has increased half a point (from 2.5 to almost 3 on a scale of 4). He showed how to access the information for each faculty and each semester/summer online.

Zhao provided progress report of the PhD students and reported the name of the speakers selected by the PhD committee. The scheduled PhD seminars are taught by Debreceny (Fall 2014) and Jung (Spring 2015).

Following UHPA contract and SOA policies, the faculty are required to provide their planned activities. Pourjalali will provide the form for completion to the faculty at the next meeting.

SOA should improve the number of MAcc applicants by contacting other schools.

Christian Plesner Rossing indicated that he would provide a written report on his experience at UHM and will provide teaching alternatives used in Copenhagen Business School

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.