The meeting began at 3pm.

Meeting Focus: Humanities Group

Chairs/Directors Present: Sowards, Smith, Brunk and Tabuenca

Chairs/Directors Invited but not present: Moffett

Dean’s Office Staff Present: Jayasuriya and Estrada

1. UTEP Core Metrics
   Crites briefly discussed the core metrics that are shared across UT System institutions (specifically: enrollment, semester credit hours, degrees awarded, research expenditures, and publications). There was discussion about Academic Analytics not accurately reflecting faculty productivity, especially in the humanities and the arts. Chairs were asked to provide input to Crites on this.

2. Direction and Objectives of Humanities
   There was a brief discussion about including a non-departmental faculty member (in an external but related field) on faculty search committees (e.g., a linguistics faculty on a psychology faculty search committee). There was general agreement that this could be good but also some discussion that it might not be possible to know which outside person is appropriate until later in the search process (e.g., determining finalists for campus visits).

3. Discussion: Direction and Needs of Humanities Departments
   There was an extended discussion about issues facing the Humanities Departments. Some of the major issues discussed were:

   - Getting office space for all tenure-track and tenured faculty
   - Being competitive in faculty search requests for faculty who are needed to ensure the breadth of the discipline but may not contribute to PhD instruction
   - Creating mechanisms that might help and protect junior faculty who have interdisciplinary appointments in two departments
   - Possible interdepartmental collaborations that might allow people in one department to supervise students in terminal degree programs (PhD or MFA) in another department. This type of arrangement might allow for more PhD students by increasing the number of faculty who can supervise them. The following potential collaborations were noted: Language/Literature – Creative Writing; Translation – English; Linguistics – Psychology; History – Art History; History – Music; and Rhetoric – Communication. Chairs were encouraged to think about these connections and explore options for doing this.

4. Discussion: Business Center Concerns
   There was a short discussion about the Business Center. Two issues were mentioned:

   - Forms not being accurate
   - Coverage for the department office when the department’s only administrative assistant is taking lunch, vacation, sick leave, etc.
5. **Announcements**

Crites announced that the next meeting will be with the Departments that have Secondary Education as a minor. This meeting will be scheduled in January.