I. Chair Barth called the meeting to order at 1100. The minutes from the last regular meeting on November 19, 2013 were motioned to be accepted, seconded and approved unanimously.
II. Secretary DeFebbo provided a brief update on the library fire suppression renovation. The library renovation is slated to occur from May-November with entire collection unavailable from approx. June-November. Any parts of the collection necessary to faculty members’ Summer I & II, and Fall semesters needs to be identified and pulled to be placed on reserve no later than May 1. Ruby Murray is the reserves manager and can be contacted via email or phone (ruby.murray@citadel.edu – 953-2568) to have items placed on reserve.

III. Prof. Mabrouk and Prof. Trautman from FTPC presented the updated Post Tenure Review policy. The revisions include the addition of a Definitions section and added details on the review process. There is also added language to encourage departments and schools to give some recognition to tenured faculty being rated as satisfactory. Prof. Dorko raised concerns from faculty in his department regarding the involvement of FTPC in the Post Tenure Review process. Prof. Mabrouk clarified that FTPC’s involvement with Post Tenure Review was limited to updating the policy and not any actual review of professors applying for Post Tenure Review. Prof. Mabrouk explained that the review of this policy was assigned to FTPC by General Hines. The Post Tenure Policy Review sub-committee did not make any policy changes.

Prof. Thompson motioned to accept the revisions of the Post Tenure Review Policy. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion was made to formally recommend that FTPC maintain the responsibility for updating the Post Tenure Review policy. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Prof. Skow proposed to the change the FTPC charter reflect that “Anyone appointed in an administrative position either full-time or part-time is ineligible to serve on the Faculty Tenure and Promotion Committee.” This is a continued discussion from October meeting. Justification for this change was on the basis of conflict of interest with faculty in administrative positions serving on a committee that is supposed to be comprised of only faculty. Discussion continued on clarifying the proposal in terms of what the FTPC defined as an administrator. An administrator was defined as anyone holding a position with the words of Dean or Provost in the title. Prof. Thompson moved to accept the changes to the FTPC charter. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

IV. Chair Barth identified faculty teaching loads as one area of the faculty manual that needs to be looked at and potentially revised.

V. Prof. Kapeluck volunteered to assist Prof. Bishop with updating the Adjunct Faculty Manual and Adjunct Faculty Policies. Prof. Bott and Prof. Thompson volunteered to find some participants from their departments to assist with this task as well.

VI. Prof. Kapeluck discussed the excessive number of training required, particularly for professors who serve as club advisors. Additionally only being able to have club meetings on Fridays or in the evening proves to be a hardship for many professors and ends up being a barrier to participation. Chair Barth asked the Council to poll people in their department regarding the general consensus on training requirements.
No action was taken on this issue.

VII. Chair Barth opened discussion regarding the availability of grade distribution amongst the schools and departments. No action was taken on this issue.

VIII. Chair Barth asked for feedback regarding the creation of the Center for Teaching & Learning. No action was taken on this issue.

IX. Chair Barth asked for feedback regarding an academic freedom resolution drafted by a few South Carolina public colleges and universities regarding recent action taken by the SC legislature to attempt to reduce funding to the College of Charleston and USC-Upstate in response to materials selected as part of each school’s common reading program. Chair Barth said he will distribute the current resolutions and would like feedback regarding whether we would like adopt a resolution as well.

X. Prof. Thompson raised legal concerns about the timeliness of the notification of research and development grant approval. Due to the school wide tenure requirement to research and publish, there is an implied promise that faculty will receive the funding necessary to conduct such research. Due to the implied promise, faculty members commit their own funds prior to being approved and in some cases faculty members do not receive funding due to insufficient funds. This results in a broken promise from the school opening the school up to a lawsuit. Some faculty members have been denied funding by the Provost on the basis of too much international travel. Discussion of this issue will be continued at the next Faculty Council meeting.

XI. The meeting was adjourned at 12:19pm.