Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2015
ASB 007-008
9:30AM to 11:30AM

Attendees: Emma Rainforth, Rebecca Root, Ken McMurdy, Eva Ogens, Jonathan Lipkin, Susan Kurzmann, Roark Atkinson, Susan Eisner, Bonnie Blake
Secretary: Mark Skowronski
Guests: None

1) Approval of FAEC minutes from February 10, 2016
   a. Approved

2) President Rainforth’s Report
   a. As the Faculty Assembly is the designated voice of the faculty, the FAEC supports the use of FA by-laws as the procedure for the Faculty Assembly Policy (as requested by Cabinet).
   b. Dr. Michelle Johnson and the Academic Advisement Council would like to announce the winners of their advisement award at April’s FA meeting. The FAEC is inclined to agree; however, the FAEC would like to discuss the award with Dr. Johnson. Specifically, the FAEC wants to ensure that faculty are aware of this award and that there is fair representation. There were concerns with last year’s award process.

3) FA agenda (Feb 17)
   a. Vote to endorse Provost’s Council’s Undergraduate Teaching Load Policy
      i. President Rainforth will discuss the pros and cons of the proposed revision. She will announce that the FAEC recommends AGAINST endorsing the policy changes being proposed, and that the FAEC has drafted an alternative.
      ii. The FAEC unanimously approves the following language as a revision to the Undergraduate Teaching Load Policy: “Full time members of the Ramapo College Faculty have responsibility for teaching in the undergraduate programs. The formal expectation is that faculty teach six courses in load per year. Four undergraduate courses constitute the required in-load teaching for full time faculty regardless of reassigned time or other arrangements. Exceptions can be made only where accreditation or licensing bodies for graduate programs require that a higher proportion of a full-time faculty member’s
teaching load be at the graduate level; however, those faculty members must still teach at least one regular (4 credit) course in the undergraduate curriculum each year.”

b. New Minors
i. The FA will vote on a new minor in Plant Studies and a new minor in American Studies. As the proposed new concentrations for the MSN program are inconsistent with the current Teaching Load Policy, the FAEC (unanimously) votes to NOT hold a vote on this graduate program revision at today’s FA meeting.

c. The chair of the Scheduling Task Force will make a brief presentation.

d. Vote on At-Large FAEC reps. If two reps from the same unit win, only the rep with the most votes from that unit will serve (per by-laws). Election for “11 and over” at-large rep: Bonnie Blake and Kim Lorber. Election for “under 11” at-large rep: Eva Ogens and John Peffer.

e. If there is time remaining at today’s FA, Kat McGee will discuss Title 9 Investigator Training in May.

4) Other Items
a. The FAEC will be meeting with Dean’s Council tomorrow at 11:00am in the York Room in our configuration as the Gen Ed Governance Working Group.

b. We are still trying to schedule a meeting with Cabinet. Next Wednesday (am) is available, but we will have a very small agenda; we are trying to meet later in the semester. March 29 at 2pm is available; however, most members of the FAEC are able and willing to meeting with President’s Cabinet only at 3:30pm that day due to teaching obligations
i. As an alternative, perhaps we should invite some members of President’s Cabinet to next FAEC meeting (re: concerns about library renovations)?

c. Should ARC explore whether or not there can be exceptions to the 68 credit cap for majors? (Context: TAS lab issues)

d. Some members of the FAEC are concerned about the “alarmist” tone of emails sent from the CONNECT system (re: advisement holds). There is also a general concern about “loop closing” re: the CONNECT system.

e. Some faculty feel that assessment of the new Gen Ed should belong to some type of convening-group structure. There are concerns that by endorsing GECCo as the assessment body, we are precluding such a structure. Perhaps we should spell it out more clearly in the GECCo
charge (i.e., the need to coordinate with faculty). We will bring this to the Governance group tomorrow.

f. Can we inquire about the status of President Mercer's contract renewal?