

Approved October 31, 2007

Executive Council
October 3, 2007
ASB 230

Members Present: Jim Morley, Erin Augis, Amruth Kumar, Meredith Davis (substituting for Maria Vail), Irene Kuchta, Anita Stellenwerf, Susan Eisner, Eric Karlin, Marcia Sexton, Steve Rice, Provost Beth Barnett

Members Absent: Lisa Cassidy (Absent due to teaching conflict), Maria Vail

I. Meeting with Provost Barnett 8:00a-9:30a

1. Funding for scholarship

Members present participated in a general discussion on sabbaticals including funding/budget implications, policies and procedures, and criteria. Additional discussion turned to Separately Budgeted Research (SBR) policies, procedures, and criteria. The Faculty Handbook covers both SBR and sabbatical criteria and procedures. Provost Barnett suggested the Executive Council discuss guidelines for criteria and committee composition for subsequent years at a future meeting

2. Master Calendar update

The Spring 2008 semester will start on Tuesday, January 22, following the Martin Luther King holiday. Members present brought up concerns with the semester beginning on a Tuesday and Final's Week running from Tuesday to Monday. Provost Barnett said that calendar puts us in sync with start dates of other New Jersey colleges. Councilors recapped reasons why it has recommended starting the Monday following Martin Luther King holiday.

Action Item: Provost Barnett will send the results from the student survey to Executive Council.

3. Teaching and Learning

This extra session was stimulated by last week's meeting, in which review of Strategic Plan draft 2 led to discussion about transition in higher ed. approach to emphasize the outcomes of (student learning) the educational experience. Councilor Morley began the discussion referring to the article "No Gr_du_te Left Behind" from the September 30, 2007, issue of the *New York Times* that he sent to all Executive Council members. Provost Barnett had also seen the article and general discussion focused on redefining education, the impact of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the United States Department of Education certification of regional accrediting agencies, and assessment. Everyone present was encouraged to attend the Greater Expectations program with Marcia Mentkowski from Alverno College scheduled from 1:00p-3:00p in Friends Hall. Additional discussion focused on the purpose of assessment, learning experiences, learning strategies, defining objectives, outcomes, fundamental skills, and what is done with assessment results.

II Executive Council meeting 9:40a-11:10a

1. Parking Update

Councilors Stellenwerf and Kumar provided an update on the parking committee's progress. The Parking Committee has not yet made final recommendations, and Executive

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Committee representatives on the Committee asked for next steps. Councilors held a lively discussion on parking issues including slowness of the decision-making process regarding process and criteria for allocation of parking spaces, reserved slots, and options for optimizing campus parking with faculty needs receiving equal attention

Action Item: President Karlin will discuss parking concerns with President Mercer, and Councilor representatives will follow up with the Parking Committee and those providing it with data.

2. Meeting times

There was a general discussion on the draft spring meeting schedule (especially with regard to time for meetings), the master calendar, and the spring semester start date.

Action Item: President Karlin will send out an email with the proposed spring meeting schedule. Councilor Kumar will write up the rationale for reallocating meeting time based on Executive Council discussion and decisions.

3. Vice President selection

Councilor Eisner has volunteered to be Vice President for fall 2007. Councilor Rice has volunteered to be Vice President for spring 2008. The volunteers were affirmed by voice vote.

4. Primary concerns

Based on groupings by Councilor Eisner, the following categories were discussed and members who volunteered were assigned as point people to gather data and bring recommendations to the Executive Council for discussion and further action

- Shared governance/greater faculty consultation and consensus-Executive Council
- Evaluations of administrators and faculty-Councilors Stellenwerf and Kuchta
- Mentoring-Councilors Eisner and Kumar
- Support for scholarship-Councilor Kumar and President Karlin
- Acculturating under 10 faculty/concerns of faculty at different career stages-Councilors Augis, Cassidy, Morley, and Kuchta
- Search Process-[suggested] Hank Frundt (Search Task Force), current and past search committee chairs
- Flex definition & Convener Compensation-Councilor Vail (pending acceptance)
- Streamlining tenure and promotion between units-Councilors Stellenwerf and Kuchta
- Classroom space allocation/Class time slots/ Student Audits-Councilor Rice

5. Minutes from the September 26, 2007, Executive Council meeting were approved as revised.

Revised and submitted by M. Sexton, October 10, 2007