

Approved January 23, 2008

Faculty Assembly  
November 7, 2007  
H Wing Auditorium  
3:00-5:00p

Attendance: **ASB**: R. Abzug, T. Burns, L. Chakrin, N. Dahan, S. Eisner, Y. Gao, S. Govindaluri, A. Jantan, S. Klein, T. LaManna, E. Petkus, L. Ponti, R. Shea, C. Sherman, A. Vengerov, J. Woodley, K. Yeaton, K. Zeno; **AIS**: L. Cassidy, J. Hoch, I. Lopez, C. Meyer, S. Rice, S. Rubin, I. Spar; **CA**: M. Bautis, P. Campbell, R. Clark, M. Davis, R. Gangemi, J. Hollenbach, B. Hughes, J. Lipkin, L. Lutter, E. Negron, J. Peck, S. Perry, R. Sen, B. Shamash, M. Vail; **LIB**: R. Dilly, L. Keller, I. Kuchta, S. Kurzmann, M. Sexton; **SSHS**: E. Abbey, G. Bear, R. Becklen, C. Bowman, J. Cataliotta, D. Crawley, M. Edelstein, V. Gonsalvez-Domand, W. Hayes, P. Heinze, K. Johnson, E. Kaiden, R. Langheim, D. Lewis-Coleman, A. Lorenz, S. Massimo, J. Morley, F. Murphy, M. Poran, E. Ross, F. Shapiro-Skrobe, T. Sineshaw, M. Vides; **TAS**: K. Burke, A. Felix, S. Frees, C. Frishberg, C. Johnson, E. Karlin, A. Kumar, R. Lowell, K. Moskin, B. Olsen, E. Patterson, K. Potocka, E. Rainforth, R. Rosty, E. Saiff, R. Shannon, X. Valderamma, E. Weiner

Approval of the minutes of the previous Faculty Assembly: Approved

#### Faculty Showcase

- *Anisfield School of Business* was presented by Rikki Abzug and showcased “Research at ASB” publications and projects by various faculty including: Kathy Yeaton, Alexander Vengerov, Anita Stellenwerf, Cherie Sherman, Rita Shea, Murray Sabrin, Ed Petkus, Alex Olbrecht, Jason Hecht, Eric Haye, Mary Ellen Harvey, Milton Gittens, William Frech, Susan Eisner, Nicholas Dahan, Constance Crawford, Timothy Burns, and Rikki Abzug.

#### President's Report: P. Mercer

President Mercer provided an update on the State Commission of Investigation report: *Vulnerable to Abuse* and Ramapo's contribution of over 15, 000 pages of documents. No allegations of misbehavior were found on campus. The main concern is with Ramapo's level of debt. The President also announced that Berrie Center public programming will continue. The budget outlook for next fiscal year is bleak with an estimated \$8 million deficit. More concrete budget numbers are expected in February or March 2008.

#### Provost's Report: B. Barnett

Provost Barnett reported on attending a Middle States Conference as a kick-off to the re-accreditation process and the upcoming Self-Study. She also gave an update of the Master Calendar and student survey results including a compromise on starting after the Martin Luther King Holiday. The current plan is to start the Tuesday after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday (usually MLK) except 2012 when it will start later. The Provost also reported on progress in increasing funding and support for scholarship that has been made since her spring 2007 report including small increases for faculty travel. Faculty-student research funding is also available. Provost Barnett also announced the availability of 12 \$1000 stipends for faculty to take an existing course and put it into an online format. Scotty Massimo and the TEC are available for interested faculty to

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use in developing online versions of existing courses. Brief discussion followed on the topics of services to adult learners, summer programs, and evening/Saturday programs.

Report of the President of the Faculty Assembly: E. Karlin

President Karlin presented a brief overview of some of the issues discussed in Executive Council including:

- Parking-kudos to Anita Stellenwerf and Amruth Kumar for keeping up on this issue
- Calendar-Executive Council's position is that the spring semester start on the Monday following the MLK holiday
- Sabbaticals-number of funded sabbaticals, Task Force on Criteria for Sabbaticals created to put standards in place
- Funding Guide/Guide to Funding-kudos to Lisa Cassidy, Executive Council recommended principles for funding of scholarship including streamlining processes, institutional memory, faculty development, peer review, per capita commitment, focus on excellence, timing of deadlines, reporting mechanisms, transparency of criteria, procedures, and results
- Review of implementation of personnel procedures-consistency of implementation, report to be presented to Union
- End of term party? Historical tradition of faculty potluck, all college holiday party replaced faculty potluck; open for feedback to Council representatives.
- Meeting of senate chairs and faculty assembly presidents from other state institutions resulted in a wide variety of practices including: internal/external deans, dean involvement with promotion process, student evaluations, and faculty governance structures-4 senates (faculty senate or university senate) and 2 assemblies. Faculty Assembly Presidents and Senate Chair leaders plan to meet at least once a semester.
- Review of faculty governance structure: the current model will conclude its 2 year pilot next spring. For the December 12 Faculty Assembly: current Executive Council members will present their perceptions of the current structure as a panel discussion
- At the first Faculty Assembly meeting in spring 2008, there will a discussion on various options for faculty governance. The options presently are 1) continue with the current structure, 2) return to the previous Faculty Assembly structure, or 3) continue with the current structure for an additional year while other structures are explored. A mail ballot on this issue will be sent to the faculty after the first Faculty Assembly meeting. Following the vote, nominations will be opened for positions in faculty governance for the upcoming academic year, with candidates making presentations at the second Faculty Assembly meeting in the spring 2008 semester.

ARC Report: J. Lipkin

Chairman Lipkin reminded everyone that the deadline for catalog changes is December 1, 2007. The updated ARC manual is posted on the website.

Under 10 Report: L. Cassidy

Councilor Cassidy provided a report from the Under 10 caucus including 3 concerns: funding, balancing 40-30-30, and transportation.

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Diversity Action Committee (DAC) report: R. Sen

Co-Chairwoman Sen provided a brief summary of DAC activities and developments (see handout) including the establishment of an ombudsperson. Dr. Terence Roberts is scheduled as the speaker for January's Diversity Convocation.

Reports from Faculty Representatives to BOT Committees

- Academic and Student Affairs: no report
- Capital Improvements: no report
- Finance: no report
- Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations: no report

Union Report: W. Hayes

President Hayes reported that the last meeting of the semester, which includes dinner is December 5 and that the union membership voted to approve the new contract. He also reported that Ramapo is currently a grievance-free campus.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Quick Announcements

- Mike Edelstein announced the Green Meets Green Conference and Expo November 30-December 1, 2007. HBO is scheduled to film the event.
- Maria Vail announced performances of William Shakespeare's "As You Like It" in the Sharp Theatre November 9-11 and 14-17, 2007.