

## Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2014

SC-136: 1200-1:30

Secretary: Dean Chen

1. FA President Emma Rainforth's report
  - a) Deans' survey results are released.
  - b) FAEC met with the Cabinet on 12/1/14 and discussed the following issues: shared governance, campus safety, sexual assaults.
  - c) President Rainforth is working with Eric Daffron and Michael Bitz on Luminis.
  - d) The report by the Task Force on Experiential Learning will be postponed until next spring.
  - e) Faculty conference for January 15, 2015: Gen Ed Task Force, TFAEE will be updating us on their progress.
  
2. President Peter Mercer's report
  - a) The College is worried about some of the unfortunate events that have happened recently: sexual assaults, racial tensions. Public safety got noise complaint from the Village this past weekend; students were getting out of control (climbing up the public safety vehicles, alcohol intoxication). The College needs to address these matters very seriously and to reexamine our values and culture.
  - b) The College has retained Stafford Associates, as well as former attorney general of New Jersey Anne Milgram as consultant to advise Ramapo on these issues. Recommendations will be provided.
  - c) Faculty members expressed their views regarding these events, and also discussed some of the concerns raised by their students.
  
3. Approval of the FA meeting minutes from 11/12.
  
4. Gen Ed Task Force updates (Ed Shannon)
  - a) Proposed a new structure to revise Gen Ed: Ramapo Arch, which is supported by Keystone Courses (including majors, clusters/minors, and concentrations), Mid-career and Senior Experiences, Service-learning, Study-abroad, Languages, Certificates, Co-op/internships.
  - b) Keystone courses are expected to be taken in Year 1 and 2, Mid-career reflection and cluster/minors (theme courses) in Year 2 and 3, and Senior project in Year 4. Service learning and Language proficiency in Year 1 and 2; Internship/Coop/Study abroad/Field work in Year 3 and 4.
  - c) No specific courses were included in the report.
  - d) Gen Ed Task Force report will be posted on the FA website.
  - e) Faculty members provided feedback to this initial report.

5. TFAEE Progress Report #2 (Eric Karlin)

a) Reviewed the charge of TFAEE and reported on data the TFAEE has reviewed.

b) Discussed credit issues and scheduling/space issues

- The change to the current credit system (CEP) in 2006 has allowed for greater flexibility as more students have taken minors or double minors. TFAEE is exploring ways to increase the % of students taking minors and double-majors.
- The current structure results in more adjunct overload compared to other models considered here; a change to full 4 credit courses (3-3 load per faculty member) results in less adjunct overload than a change to 3 credit courses (4-3 course load per faculty member).
- Space Planning and Programming Report: A total of 51 general purpose classrooms are recommended, or seven fewer than the 58 that currently exist. Report says that Ramapo has too many “general purpose” classrooms that are not being used efficiently and that the current scheduling of courses is “grossly unbalanced” (i.e. certain days/times are more heavily utilized than others).
- Suggested that a more balanced schedule of course offerings is needed: Wednesday offerings could be enhanced.
- Richard Stockton College of NJ and The College of New Jersey are used for comparisons with Ramapo College in the report, since they are comparable in size, have 4-credit courses, and fall under Middle State review/federal regulations. Reminder: Ramapo College adopted CEP in Fall 2006, with 3-3 teaching load, 4 student credits per course, 3.6 teaching credits for each course (21.6 credits total), and 2.4 credits for “FLEX” (10% of 24 credits)..
- Although a conclusion has not yet been reached, the TFAEE is tentatively leaning towards a full 4-credit model.

6. Provost Beth Barnett’s report

a) May be moving toward the full-4 credit model, as recommended by TFAEE, and would need to continue conversation with the AFT regarding possible modifications to the current local agreement on CEP.