

Approved October 13, 2010

FAEC
10-6-10
ASB 230

Members Present: President Jim Morley, Sam Mustafa, Alex Olbrecht, Eric Haye, Ruma Sen, Jill Weiss, Max Goldberg, Jeremy Teigen, Marcia Sexton (recorder)

Members Absent: Elaine Risch

Minutes of the 9/29 meeting were approved.

1. New items/reports from President

Members present participated in a discussion based on President Mercer's State of the College address on September 29, 2010. The topic of discussion revolved around the perceived relationship between faculty time spent on campus, amounts of homework/out of class work assigned, and the increase of student drinking. Information was provided that as much as 60% of classes meet only one day a week which could be due to classroom space or scheduling. It was also mentioned that the Faculty Handbook stipulates that faculty may be on campus a maximum of four days per week. Brief mention was made regarding how Student Affairs is reacting to the increase of campus drinking and members were informed that one of the campus shuttles has been discontinued which could increase the potential for students to drink and drive. Some faculty have heard from their students that there is "nothing to do" once they've finished out of class work. Funding for on campus events has been severely cut and faculty are no longer allowed to live on campus within the residence halls. A few suggestions were brought up including a restructuring of the class schedule and assigning "faculty masters" to each residence hall. Council was informed that there will be an open forum for students on October 7, 2010, at 4pm to discuss campus drinking and activities. It was agreed that President Mercer be invited to the October 13 Council meeting to address the perceived correlation between faculty presence on campus and the student drinking. (See also Item #3 below)

2. GECCO progress report: Councilor Sam Mustafa

President Morley has spoken with Chair Rob Mentore regarding the two reassigned time slots he has for chairing GECCO. There is some confusion as to the reporting structure for GECCO, do they report to Faculty Assembly, ARC, or the Provost? Councilor Mustafa who also sits on GECCO provided a progress report on GECCO's activities. This semester they are focusing on writing as it pertains to Gen Ed. Councilor Mustafa expressed to Council the concern of many committee members regarding possible redundancy of the GECCO's charge, which is broadly defined and which can be construed to duplicate the work of convening groups and unit assessment committees, as well as the WAC and other groups. There is also concern regarding the slow progress of GECCO meetings and a perceived lack of clear leadership. Council members participated in a discussion regarding clarifying GECCO's charge and President Morley will attend a future GECCO meeting and report back to Council.

3. Scheduling a meeting with President Mercer (see also Item #1 above)

President Mercer is invited to the October 13 Council meeting for 45 minutes with the following agenda items: perceived relationship between faculty presence on campus and the

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increase in student drinking, class scheduling, faculty assistance at open houses and other advising events, and student behavior at Commencement and Convocation.

4. Faculty involvement in planning and design of campus buildings

Council members participated in a brief discussion regarding the lack of faculty involvement in the planning or design of the newly dedicated Salemeno Spirituality Center and other capital projects on campus. President Morley and Councilor Weiss informed Council that the Board of Trustees has approved re-construction of the G Building. (See also Item #5 below) It is imperative that faculty be involved especially in the G Building project and provide input.

5. Board of Trustees Report: Councilor Jill Weiss

Councilor Weiss updated Council on the recent Board of Trustees meeting where the College's marketing plan was approved. Capital improvements to the Student Center HVAC system and a renovation/re-construction of the G Building were also approved. The College will be refinancing up to \$20 million in bonds to fund improvements. (See also Item #4 above)

6. Preparation for October 20 Faculty Assembly

President Morley and Councilor Weiss are working with Helen Gray, Media Services, on setting up for the October 20 meeting including microphones, lighting, and having a technician on site. Christina Connor has agreed to maintain the Turningpoint program in the event votes by clicker are needed. It was also agreed that meeting ushers were needed. The agenda for Faculty Assembly will be completed at next week's Executive Council. It was also strongly suggested that discussion time limits be posted for both Executive Council and Faculty Assembly agendas.

7. Prioritizing of FAEC agenda (ongoing)

- Convener support
- SBR
- Middle States
- Writing initiatives
- Online Evaluations
- Online Courses
- Reappointment & Tenure
- Course release parity
- Deans evaluation & hiring procedures
- Academic commons
- Clearing Wednesday schedule for meetings

8. Holiday Party

President Morley informed Council that Katherine Krase, SSHS, has volunteered to organize the faculty holiday party. There was disagreement among members whether this should be considered an Executive Council approved event or just a voluntary faculty event. No consensus could be reached prior to adjournment.

Submitted by M. Sexton, October 7, 2010

Revised by M. Sexton, October 12, 2010