

Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting

Present: Jim Morley, Alex Olbrecht, Max Goldberg, Jeremy Teigen, Sam Mustafa, Ruma Sen, Jillian Weiss

Not Present: Elaine Risch, Eric Hays

Secretary: Kristin Kenneavy

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### 1. Approve Past Minutes

Minutes approved.

### 2. Review Past Semester; Plan Agenda for New Semester

Full discussion tabled until next week in light of need to review motions before the Faculty Assembly.

- a. Academic commons – Jim Morley has scheduled a meeting with President Mercer on this issue next week.
- b. FAEC email – need to promote this as an avenue for suggestions.
- c. Academic Schedule – need discussion of potentially lengthening winter break.
- d. Implement “Release Time” transparency proposal. Jim Morley will meet with Provost Barnett about this. Convener release time is a separate issue.
- e. Conveners – Need to find information from Institutional Research on which conveners are most burdened (determined by number of students?). Jeremy Teigen will follow up on this.
- f. College budget concerns and their potential impact on faculty members. Much depends on the governor’s decision regarding tuition caps.
- g. Assessment – Committees appear to be functioning well (Pat Keeton, Chair of All College Assessment Committee). This topic will likely be given time at the Faculty Conference Days at the end of Spring Semester.

### 3. Prepare for 1/19 Faculty Assembly Meeting

- a. Gov Review Committee Report and Vote
  1. Discussion of whether 2/3 of the whole faculty needs to approve or whether 2/3 of those voting need to approve. Decided on the latter due to language in Article 8 of the Faculty Assembly bylaws. Robert’s Rules state the abstentions are not factored into the denominator to calculate the percentage that approve or disapprove.

2. Also discussed need to promote the vote as the required mail ballot may result in low turnout. Ballots will be sent through campus mail to save money, or to the homes of those who may be on sabbatical. The Provost's office will be contacted for a list, which will need to be reviewed for errors prior to sending out the ballots. Those eligible include all faculty, and staff with teaching responsibilities.
  3. Vote is to determine the structure of governance, not the amended by-laws. Either revert to the old system (president with optional council) or keep the current system. By-laws will be voted on separately.
- b. Will note that Alex Olbrecht will be the Parliamentarian at the meeting.
  - c. The current practice of having the FAEC sit in front of the Assembly was discussed and it was decided that the practice should be disbanded as it made it difficult for representatives to fully participate in the discussion and possibly contributed to an adversarial feel in meetings. There was some disagreement as to the latter point.
  - d. Discussion of the Motion to Provide Discussion Periods and Discussion of the Motion to Include New Business Periods in Faculty Assembly Meetings
    1. Discussion was mostly around the issue of how these two motions were different from each other. It was eventually concluded that the Discussion Period motion (Jim Morley) was to allow the FAEC to bring a matter before the Faculty Assembly for discussion (top down) whereas the New Business motion (Kay Fowler) was to allow faculty members to bring matters to the attention of the FAEC (bottom up).
    2. It was reiterated that these spaces were not meant to lead to impromptu votes on un-researched issues.
    3. If both types of discussion spaces take place in one meeting, the Discussion Period takes precedence over New Business (goes first on the agenda).

#### 4. Meet with Cathy Davey from the Ramapo Foundation

Cathy Davey was unable to attend the meeting.

There was discussion of what the FAEC might communicate to Ms. Davey at a future, rescheduled meeting. Representatives hoped to speak about how the Foundation might better utilize faculty in their fundraising efforts and the Foundation's strategies for recruiting donors.

#### 7. Motion to adjourn – unanimous agreement.