Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting August 31, 2011

Present: Jim Morley, Max Goldberg, Sam Mustafa, Ruma Sen, Jillian Weiss, Donna Crawley, Elaine Risch

Absent: Alex Olbrecht

Secretary: Rebecca Root

1. Review of last year's achievements, setbacks, and unfinished business.

a. After completion of Faculty Governance Review Committee, governance structure is now settled. Major issues ahead: president's strategic vision, continuing Middle States process.

b. Discussion of how much this body should set priorities or respond to issues as they arise, and how broad or narrow FAEC's bailiwick should be.

c. Max proposes future FAEC agendas be divided between long-term priorities and new items, with 45 minutes devoted to each. After discussion, FAEC decides to try this. Each week, priorities to be discussed at following FAEC will be decided upon. For next meeting, each member of FAEC will bring their top 5 priorities. List of priorities from last year will be circulated. Secretary will keep copies of documents generated by group, such as priorities lists.

d. Need to enforce rules about items for FA agenda being submitted a week in advance so there is time for FAEC to review materials and be informed before it comes up at FA.

2. Jim reports on developments over the summer.

a. The FAEC will be able to meet with the President's Counsel once per semester.

b. Jim also discussed with President Mercer the question of faculty common space. He may get confirmation tomorrow as to whether carriage house will be designated for this.

c. New legislation passed this summer will require all future hires to reside in New Jersey.

3. President Mercer's Strategic Plan questions.

a. President Mercer forwarded two questions he would like answered by Jim at a President's Council meeting on September 9, regarding the role of FA and FAEC in developing the strategic vision and faculty priorities.

b. What role does President Mercer want FAEC or FA to play in this process? Jim will pose this question at the Sept. 9 meeting.

c. Discussion two points Sam forwarded by email to the group in response to Mercer's questions, as well as of other possible issues, such as problem of new faculty having courses cut due to low enrollment.

d. Donna raises point that faculty who participate in strategic vision planning should have expertise in planning, forecasting, higher education, and familiarity working with the kinds of data involved.

4. Setting over-all agenda priorities for the year.

a. Tabled for next meeting, when each FAEC member will bring their top priorities based on documents from last year.

5. Planning the October 5th Faculty conference.

a. Will have basically the same format as May 2011 conference. Will be in Pavilion instead, and a shorter schedule (half a day). All FA meetings will also be in Pavilion this semester.

6. Upcoming elections.

a. Jim nominates Jillian for Vice President of FAEC. Jillian had to leave at this point. This will be voted upon at the next FA.

b. FAEC councilor elections are this Fall. Current members will finish their term at the end of Spring 2012.

c. FAEC presidential elections are in Spring 2012. Current president will finish his term in Summer 2012.

d. Jeremy Teigen has resigned, as he is abroad for the semester. Public announcement will be made regarding election for Jeremy's replacement at the next FA.