

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2012, 9:15 to 11am

Present: Jim Morley, Elaine Risch, Donna Crawley, Max Goldberg, Peggy Greene, Sam Mustafa, Alex Olbrecht, Beba Shamash

Absent: Jillian Weiss

Secretary: Rebecca Root

1. Approval of the minutes for FAEC meeting of January 25. Motion, seconded, approved.

2. President Morley's Report

Pres Morley and Pres Mercer have not yet met to develop the action document following up on the meeting between the FAEC and President's Cabinet, but will do so soon. Pres Morley has met with Provost Barnett and expressed to her ongoing concerns about tenure caps.

Rep. Olbrecht spoke to Prof. Rikki Abzug (the faculty representative to the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Trustees) about whether Pres. Mercer has forwarded to the committee a proposal to change the tenure cap policy. She reported that they had not yet received that proposal, but often don't receive such proposals until just before the Board of Trustees meets.

3. Preparation for Today's Faculty Assembly

a. Reviewed FA agenda.

b. Discussed lack of a parliamentarian for today's FA. This is a recurring problem and we need to think of ways to better institutionalize the role of the parliamentarian and Robert's Rules at FA.

4. Planning for February 8 Faculty Conference

During the first hour, Anthony Padovano will lead a discussion about the importance of the liberal arts. The second part of the conference will consist of break-out groups discussing the Strategic Plan with a focus on the college's mission and the vision for the Strategic Plan. Pres. Morley will send an agenda out to the faculty.

5. Progress on 2011-12 Priorities

a. SBR

The SBR Task Force has drafted new regulations and a new application form and will soon forward them to the administration for feedback.

b. Sedona

Rep. Risch emailed Assoc. VP for Academic Affairs/Employee Relations Judith Jeney about this and is awaiting a response.

c. Online student evaluation

Rep. Crawley reported that online courses used online student evaluations this past semester. The return rate was 58%. The current system imposes administrative work due to a need to change formatting of reports, which also have some problems such as an inability to separate student comments from quantitative measures. She will continue to work with ITS on this and plans to report to the FAEC and then the FA this semester with her recommendations on whether the broader faculty should adopt this system, revise the current system, or some other alternative.

6. New Business

Pres. Morley raised the concern, expressed to him by some faculty, that clear criteria for promotion to Full Professor are lacking. Should there be more clearly defined criteria? After much discussion, the issue was tabled for possible discussion at some point later this semester.