

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2012, 11am to 1pm

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

Secretary: Rebecca Root

1. Minutes for FAEC of December 7. Seconded, approved.

2. President's Report

Pres. Morley met with Provost Barnett and Pres. Mercer, largely to discuss worrying language in reappointment letters and problematic renovation plans for A and B wings.

3. Charge of the FA Budget Committee

At the Dec. 7, 2011 FA, the FA voted to create an FA Budget Committee. Prof. Jason Hecht will chair it and has proposed language for the charge of the committee. After discussing the charge, the FAEC amends it to read:

“The Faculty Assembly Budget Committee is charged with collecting and analyzing all data relevant to the financial status of academic programs and other college functions.

While it will strive to be representative of most academic units, members of the committee will need to have appropriate levels of mathematical and analytical skills and/or expertise in finance and accounting. The chair of the committee, Jason Hecht, will select the appropriate members. The committee will provide regular progress reports to the Executive Council and Faculty Assembly and produce a final report with findings 1 year from the Faculty Assembly's approval of this charge.”

Pres. Morley will forward this language to Prof. Hecht and discuss further refinements and the deadline for final report. At the first FA of the semester (Feb. 1), Prof. Hecht will read the charge and report on the selection of the committee's membership.

4. Unit Council FAEC Rep Elections

Given uncertainty of the timeline, Pres. Morley, VP Weiss, and Secretary Root will meet after this meeting closes to discuss the timeline.

NB: That timeline was clarified, and Secretary Root later sent an email to all faculty regarding upcoming elections. All units should elect their FAEC reps on January 25 and report them to Secretary Root, who will then open nominations for the two Councilors At Large. Eligibility will be confirmed by Secretary Root and the candidates will have an opportunity to briefly address the FA on Feb. 1. Elections by mail-in ballot will follow.

5. Planning for the Spring Faculty Conferences (Feb. 8 and March 7)

Discussed possible topics, including strategic planning or the state of the humanities. Will discuss these possibilities with Prof. Anthony Padovano (a possible speaker on the topic of the humanities for the Feb. 8 conference) and faculty members of the Strategic Planning Committee (for the March 7 conference).

6. Preparation for January 25 meeting with the Strategic Planning Faculty Reps

Discussed issues to be covered, including expressing areas of concern that will be likely to come up in the Strategic Planning process.

7. Preparation for Today's Meeting with the President's Cabinet

Pres. Morley prepared a list of suggested topics. After much discussion, this list was narrowed and it was agreed that most concerns boil down to a need for better communication between FAEC and administration. Possible ways to address this were discussed, including renewing the request that the FAEC have a representative attend the meetings of the President's Cabinet, and that they notify the FAEC of important decisions affecting the faculty.