

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2012, 9 to 11 am

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 January 18 approved. Minutes for FAEC meeting with President's Cabinet approved.

2. Meeting with Faculty Members of Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)

Caroline Brisson (TAS), Ann LePore (CA), Lysandra Perez-Strumolo (SSHS), Emma Rainforth (TAS), Steve Rice (SAIS), Rita Shea-Van Fossen (ASB), Madel Tisi (Library) joined the FAEC for this portion of the meeting (9-9:45am).

Discussed how the SPC will function, including work in subgroups and a deadline for a draft report by the beginning of the summer. The SPC will have weekly meetings.

Discussed how the FAEC can help the faculty members of the SPC to communicate with the faculty – both in the sense of reporting to the faculty about progress on the SPC as well as getting faculty input into the process. It was decided that Steve Rice will give a brief report on the SPC to the FA on Feb. 1. It was also decided that part of the Faculty Conference Day on Feb. 8 will be dedicated to an open forum on the Strategic Plan. Later in the semester, once there is more to report on and solicit feedback on, another report to the FA will be in order.

Discussed broadly how the nature of the college has changed over time. While the SPC will examine the mission of the college as part of articulating a vision for the new Strategic Plan, they are not going to rewrite or abandon the current mission statement. Nevertheless, the vision driving the SPC needs to be articulated soon, and should be the basis of the discussion at the faculty conference. Others suggested that the open forum also use the Middle States Report as a jumping off point for how the new Strategic Plan can respond to concerns raised there. Later in the semester, a Qualtrics survey might be developed as another means of soliciting faculty feedback and input.

3. President's Report

Pres. Morley has not yet met with Pres. Mercer about the Action Plan discussed at the end of the Jan 18 meeting of the FAEC with the President's Cabinet, but will do so soon. Pres. Morley met with Jason Hecht, who accepted the revised charge for the Budget Committee. Prof. Hecht will briefly address the FA on Feb. 1.

4. Discussion of Jan 18 Meeting of the FAEC and President Mercer's Cabinet.

Discussed ways in which FAEC can facilitate better communication between itself and the President's Cabinet, and between the administration and faculty more broadly. Ideas include asking faculty to notify the FAEC of committees they serve on in conjunction with the administration, periodically checking the minutes of the Provost's and Deans' Councils, and inviting Pres. Mercer and Provost Barnett to periodically report to and/or answer questions at FA meetings. The forthcoming Action Plan from Pres. Mercer and Pres. Morley may specify other measures, including periodic meetings of the FAEC and Presidents' Cabinet.

5. Preparation of the Agenda for the Feb. 1 FA (1-2:30pm in SC 137/8)

Agreed to the following agenda:

- i. Acceptance of the minutes
- ii. President's report - 15 minutes
- iii. Provost's report - 10 minutes plus 10 minutes Q&A
- iv. ARC report – 5 minutes
- v. Report from Jason Hecht on the new Faculty Budget Committee – 10 minutes
- vi. Report from the Faculty Representatives of the Strategic Planning Committee- 15 minutes. Steve Rice presenting. (Faculty will be asked to review the current strategic plan before the meeting)
- vii. Election statements from all-college FAEC rep candidates. 2 mins each.
- viii. New Business – 10 mins.
- ix. Close of meeting
- x. Announcements.

6. Planning for the Feb 8 Faculty Conference

Anthony Padovano will lead a discussion on “The Value of the Humanities.” Then there will be an open forum for discussion of the upcoming Strategic Plan.

7. New business

Discussed upcoming BoT meeting and whether the Human Resources Committee of the BoT already has received language from Pres. Mercer about the tenure caps issue. Rep. Olbrecht will ask Rikki Abzug, the FA Rep. to that committee. Discussed asking the FA reps to the BoT to meet with the FAEC sometime in March. Pres. Morley will follow up on this. Those reps are: Alex Olbrecht (Finance), Rikki Abzug (Human Resources), Anita Stellenwerf (Audit), Eric Wiener (Capital Improvements), Murray Sabrin (Institutional Advancement), David Lewis-Colman (Academic and Student Affairs).