

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting
September 14, 2011, 9:15-11am

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

Secretary: Rebecca Root

1. Minutes for the FAEC meeting of September 7, 2011 approved as amended.
2. Annual agenda items.
 - a. Reviewed agenda priorities identified at last meeting. The idea is to move each of these agenda items forward, perhaps with one “point person” for each.
 - b. Donna offers to oversee progress on online course evaluations. She would need to communicate with ARC about the status of this. There needs to be some resolution of this issue, but sensitive to faculty concerns about low student participation. Sam mentions the possibility of using our stated learning objectives in the syllabi as the basis of student evaluation of course.
 - c. Meeting interrupted for test of fire alarm. Topic tabled for next meeting.
3. Agenda for FA of September 21.
 - a. Jim’s comments will include a discussion of NJ residency law and request for one or two volunteers to assist with clickers at future FA meetings.
 - b. Jim will present the FAEC priorities, explaining that these priorities are selected from concerns raised by FA in the past. Faculty should continue to use the mechanisms of feedback used in the past to shape FAEC priorities, particularly sending suggestions to FAEC@RAMAPO.EDU.
 - c. Discussion of whether to include in the FA agenda a discussion of whether attendance should be taken at FA meetings. At the final Spring FA, a faculty member raised this issue.
 - d. Decision: FAEC members will consult with their constituents to determine how they feel about this issue. They will then return to FAEC to cast an informed vote about whether this issue should be brought before the full FA for discussion and ultimately a vote. Specifically, units will be asked to express their opinion as to whether attendance should be taken at FA

meetings and published in the minutes for those meetings. Discussion of this issue will not appear on the agenda for the September 21 FA meeting.

- e. Discussion of how to manage announcement at the end of FA. A decision last year was made to simply open the floor to those who wish to make announcements, so that procedure will be followed.

4. Agenda for Faculty Conference of October 5.

- a. Jim will address this in his report to the FA on Sept 21.
- b. Three speakers will give a brief treatment of an issue of important to higher education and/or Ramapo, and then lead discussion. Steve Rice will moderate discussion on the fate of the humanities; Rikki Abzug will address “the modal Ramapo student.” Jill will moderate discussion on the debate about the roles of and tensions between the liberal arts and pre-professional programs.
- c. Discussion of scheduling and logistics.
- d. Discussion of possible topics to be covered at the Spring Faculty Conference, such as the issue of how to improve students’ oral presentation skills.

5. Motion to adjourn unanimously approved.