

## **Faculty Assembly Executive Council Meeting Minutes**

December 3, 2014

ASB-230

900-1100 AM

Present: Emma Rainforth, Rebecca Root, Susan Eisner, Ken McMurdy, Kim Lorber, Susan Kurzmann, Bonnie Blake, and Jonathan Lipkin

Absent: Roark Atkinson, Dean Chen

Secretary: Rebecca Root

I. Approval of minutes for November 12 and 19.

II. FA President Rainforth's Report

a. Luminis. Emma met with Eric Daffron and Michael Bitz (IDC). Luminis, including the course management part of Luminis, is going to remain available for the time being. It is the policy of ARC and the administration that Moodle is the official course management system of the college. Prof. Eisner noted that faculty previously voted to retain Luminis as a course management option and that for it to be taken away would be a breach of shared governance and an infringement on academic freedom. Pres. Rainforth noted that Moodle training is also being reformed.

b. Various updates are being performed on the new intranet, including those FA President requested.

c. The Provost raised the point that currently the website does not feature the winners of the Thomases and Bischoff Awards. Her Office has offered to post this information on their website, but sought the FAEC's judgment about the appropriate page to post this on. Several options were discussed, but the general consensus favored posting this information on the webpage for the Office of the President or Institutional Advancement.

III. ARC Chair Thierry Rakotobe-Joel

a. Updated FAEC on progress of ARC in reviewing new course and program submissions. ARC will be focusing on the Masters of Social Work proposals for the next two weeks, and has also had a large number of CA submissions received because CA faculty are revising their core. ARC is also working with Gen Ed Task Force. (Note

that the new proposed Gen Ed plan will come before FA next week as a new Gen Ed will need to be approved in Spring.) ARC plans to be done with the course requests by Dec 17. In January, ARC will turn to matters of policy, such as the Provost's Council's request that they review the policy in the Online Course Manual for hybrid courses.

b. Prof. Eisner raised ambiguities in the policy for Incompletes. The FAEC suggested ARC add this to the policies to be reviewed in the Spring. FA President suggested ARC also review Withdrawal policy which has similar language.

c. The FAEC expressed concern that faculty who made submissions to ARC this Fall have not heard anything back from ARC. ARC Chair Rakotobe-Joel assured the FAEC that faculty will receive emails from him within the next 48 hours about their submissions.

#### IV. President Mercer

a. Briefly reviewed President's Cabinet meeting of Monday.

b. Continued discussion of sexual assault and related cases on campus. Mentioned the adoption of a new policy on sexual assault in the SUNY system; perhaps a policy across all NJ public higher education institutions is needed on this. Discussed how to approach the question of alcohol on campus, how to involve students in the discussion, and how best to communicate with faculty re: ??? (if their students are amongst those implicated and are as a result not attending classes?)

c. Discussed the BoT policy on available positions in various academic ranks. The number of slots available for promotion to Associate and Full Professor will be announced Friday. Prof. Root raised the question of how the current BoT policy is being interpreted and expressed hope that the decisions impacting availability of promotion opportunities will be guided by principles of equity.

d. Prof. McMurdy asked whether the President has found the President's Advisory Council an effective forum for communication.

e. Discussed the TFAEE as a successful model of shared governance.

f. Prof. Lorber raised the issue of G wing design which has created inequities and downgrading in terms of office space.

g. Discussed various facilities needs, and the sense that faculty and deans have that requests to Dick Roberts meet a brick wall. Suggested that the Provost in her next meeting with deans ask for an update on facilities needs. What process exists for expressing needs for long-term planning for facilities? FA President asked if an audit of needs surveying the end-users be helpful, and if so, should FAEC work with Maria

Krupin to establish a process? President Mercer recounted the issue of deferred maintenance and funding for facilities.

h. The FAEC invited Pres. Mercer to join us in our meeting with BoT Chair George Ruotolo next week.

#### V. FA Agenda for Next Week

a. The Experiential Learning Task Force report is scheduled to be up for faculty endorsement. FA President will check with ELTF Chair to determine status.

b. The Gen Ed Draft Version I will also come before FA.

VI. FA and Unit Council meetings for next week are pushed back by half an hour in response to request from Chris Romano to make it possible for faculty to participate in Transfer Orientation which is scheduled at the same time FA was to be in session.

VII. Units Reps on the FAEC should forward Dean of Students Melissa Van Der Wall's email to our units faculty and adjuncts.

VIII. The FAEC will schedule a retreat in January, to address shared governance and faculty mentoring. Date TBD, please look at your calendars.