

Faculty Assembly Executive Council Minutes

September 10, 2014

ASB-230

900-1100 AM

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

Absent: Bonnie Blake

Secretary: Dean Chen

1. Meeting with the ARC Chair (Thierry Rakotobe)
 - a. No specific issues to report yet. The ARC will work closely with faculty, administrators involved in creating new courses and new course revisions. The ARC Chair will meet with the Provost and talk with the Gen ED Task Force II.
 - b. FAEC members raised the question on whether it is necessary for ARC to come every week even if there are no specific matters and issues to report. ARC Chair thinks that it would be better if there are concrete issues to report. FA President, who has served as ARC Chair, suggested that it may also be important for ARC Chair to attend every FAEC meetings to discuss and listen to any questions and concerns raised by FAEC members. It was suggested that FA President and ARC Chair touch base in advance of a scheduled meeting and determine whether or not the joint meeting is needed.
 - c. FAEC members suggested that FAEC meeting with the ARC could take place every other week. FAEC meeting would begin at 915 AM.
2. Discussed the Data Collection and the new Data Analysis Task Forces: what are the Charge and responsibilities of the latter? How would curricular change advance students' engagement and academic excellence?
 - a. For the new Task Force, a CA representative is needed
 - b. CEC assessment data: From Eric Daffron, data were collected from each convening group on the success and lack of success on CEC assignments. Jonathan Lipkin raised the question (that Eric Daffron asked be raised at FAEC) whether these data can be shared with the Data Analysis Group (the convening groups will not be identified). FAEC is fine with that, provided any other identifying information (such as size) not be included when the data is shared.
3. Updates from Unit Council meetings last week
 - a. FA Attendance: The question remains how to make FA meetings more significant to promote greater attendance and participation from faculty. In general, most agreed that the attendance, if it is taken, should be done by FAEC instead of the administration.
4. Meeting with Provost Beth Barnett
 - a. Shared-governance: open communications and collaboration between faculty and the administration is very important and a shared value.
 - b. A new position is being established to manage academic affairs and enrollment issues: **Vice President on Student Affairs and Enrollment Management**
 - c. Data Analysis Task Force: to perform thorough analysis of the data collected. Some major issues, according to the Provost, include CEC/FLEX (how do we address the issues

identified by the Middle States with respect to FLEX? How to ensure students are completing required credit hours?), and alternative credit models for course scheduling were among items Provost discussed, as was the Strategic Plan's objective of every student completing an experiential activity. How to maximize students' academic engagement, rigor, and achievement in compliance with federal regulations and Middle States standards? The Provost also stated that it's important to increase Ramapo's competitiveness and attractiveness. The ultimate goal is to further academic excellence and academic engagement.

- d. FAEC members also queried how changes would affect course scheduling, Students' time and enrollment, and faculty's research and teaching.
 - e. Jonathan Lipkin reported to Provost that FAEC had discussed and agreed that CEC data can be shared with the Data Analysis Group. Convening groups will not be identified.
 - f. Due to liability concerns, Ramapo students will no longer be allowed to drive College vans unless they are a student employee, certified to drive college vehicles, and that driving is specified in their job descriptions.
5. Next FAEC meeting will discuss FA and FAEC agenda for the year (2014-15) and the format of FA meetings (including reporting from/ times allotted to each committee).