Minutes of FEC-9 meeting, October 25, 2006

Present: T. Burns (scribe), D. Curley, J. Delton, M. Huibregtse, P. Rubio

1. The minutes of October 11, 2006, were approved.

2. Mark Huibregtse gave a report of IPPC, which he had distributed earlier in the week. FEC discussed the report. The salient points were as follows:

   There are no plans to change the one-way section of the Perimeter Road.

   A change in the Strategic Action Agenda has now been made to the section on leadership. Following the recommendation of Mehmet, the inclusion of the phrase “open to critical discourse” will now be made to the section on leadership.

   The use of space (classrooms, offices, but especially space in Case Center) has been brought up at the Student Affairs Subcommittee, co-chaired by Dean of Student Affairs Pat Oles. One of the matters being discussed is the closing of the Burgess Café and the restriction of hours of the Spa. FEC recommended that, in light of the need to examine proposed decisions on the use of spaces in Case Center and elsewhere, a task force on space allocation be formed by IPPC, with faculty and student representation.

   This caused a broader discussion of the matter of communication between administrators who are making decisions and the broader community. Information appears not to be disseminated, and communication is breaking down. Examples were the Perimeter Road decision, the decision to abolish the Transportation Department, and now, decisions to close down very successful spaces in Case Center. FEC would like to know why these decisions are being sprung on the community, without prior study by appropriate committees. Regret was expressed that the pattern of failure of administrative consultation with the appropriate committees, which had been in evidence two years ago and last year, especially in the Dean of Student Affairs Office, was re-appearing.

   The conducting of Community Meetings was discussed. It was agreed that if these meetings are, as appears to be most often the case, merely a means for the President and his cabinet to inform non-faculty members of the community of things that are reported to faculty at monthly faculty meetings, they are commendable. If, however, as was the case last April, important decisions and discussions are reported at Community Meetings, and Faculty are expected to be in attendance, then the meetings should be run according to Robert’s Rules, with minutes duly taken and approved, and an agenda published beforehand. If there are two types of Community Meetings taking place, then they should not bear the same name.

3. On the matter of IB: SGA is still waiting for a report from the Summer Task Force.

4. Dan Moran, SGA president, has brought to FEC’s attention a possible need for a change in the Honor Code Commission membership. Current Faculty Handbook
language is vague about the membership. FEC’s recommendation was that the members of the commission are students, appointed by SGA either ex officio and/or from willingness-to-serve forms, with the exception of the one faculty member on the commission.

5. It was proposed that the Committee of Committees meeting take place on the 14th of December, after classes end. The proposal was met with prolonged, stormy applause.