Faculty Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 1, 2012
8.30-9.30am

Present: Barbara Black (chair), Jörg Bibow (scribe), Ben Givan, Paul Sattler, Natalie Taylor

I. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2012, was postponed until the next meeting.

VI. CAPT, Handbook language, and the combining of the VPAA/DOF positions

As discussions regarding the implications of the planned re-combining of the VPAA/DOF positions and reverting to the previous governance arrangements are still ongoing, the FEC remains on hold in this matter.

VII. Faculty meeting structure

In response to the FEC’s initiative, numerous contributions from faculty members have been received in recent months on how to improve the effectiveness of Faculty meetings by revising their structure. The FEC agrees that a Faculty-only Open Forum on the matter would be the appropriate next step. March 2 would be an opportune date as no Faculty meeting will held on this first Friday of the month. It is intended to invite Susan Walzer to a FEC meeting prior to the Open Forum.

The Chair will send out an email invitation for the Open Forum to the faculty, together with the results of the special WTS for the Science Facilities Task Force and a reminder of the upcoming Round III elections (starting the week of February 20).

IX. IPPC-sponsored Faculty Open Forum on NFE and the budget (not on Agenda)

The Chair distributes an email received from the DOF the day before proposing an IPPC-sponsored Faculty Open Forum that would deal with the treatment of Net Fiscal Enrollment (NFE) in the college budget. The FEC agrees to the usefulness of such a meeting. The Chair will write a response suggesting the provision of advance information to the faculty and the presence of Mike West at the proposed meeting.
III. Chair’s update on winter break matters (cont’d from 1/25)

SRC: The Chair received an email from David Karp concerning the membership composition of the SRC (formerly CRC) suggesting that the AVD director, who is an appointed faculty member, could count towards the two faculty positions on the SRC. The FEC agrees that election of faculty members is preferable and that membership composition should be left as it is.

SFTF: It is noted that SFTF membership has changed and now includes Mike West and Susan Kress, at the request of faculty members from the SFTF, shifting the balance of administrator/faculty presentation on the task force.

Discipline and Dismissal Policy: A meeting was held on this policy in December with FEC, CAPT and CAFR members, the VPAA and Barbara Krause. It was suggested that a Committee of the Whole discussion be held at the first faculty meeting of the semester and that the latest draft of the policy be sent out to the faculty well in advance.

IPPC/FEC communication: The FEC discusses the Chair’s invitation to be a guest this semester on IPPC. It is agreed that the proposed one-semester pilot might be useful in testing whether inter-committee communication could be improved in this way, related to the FEC’s role as information conduit, but that this communication model could never constitute “consultation” with FEC. Moreover, the FEC Chair would never act on behalf of FEC in any IPPC meeting but merely function as a “silent witness” (similar to FEC’s observer role in BOT meetings). The possibility of other FEC members subbing in for the Chair is also discussed.

The FEC will assess the performance of the pilot by reading IPPC minutes to see whether any value added to the inter-committee communication flow justifies the effort.

The discussion will continue at the next meeting to reach a resolution.

X. Standards of Business Conduct Working Group – replacement (not on agenda)

The DOF has informed the FEC that Sylvia McDevitt is under consideration as a replacement from Denise Smith. According to its original charge, membership of this working group is chosen by the DOF without any formal responsibility on the FEC’s part. The FEC appreciates getting a chance to confer on the matter though. After the DOF explains his reasons for this choice, no concerns regarding the chosen candidate are raised. The Chair will respond to the DOF accordingly.

II. Tenure lines allocation pilot

Abstaining, one member leaves to get to a lecture before the discussion starts on identifying five people from the DOF’s list to recommend to the latter. The remaining
FEC members do not find anyone on the list objectionable. At the same time, they do not find themselves in a position to make sufficiently informed choices. Instead, they develop some recommendations regarding process and principle, designed to increase transparency of the selection process and preventing it from becoming too political. The Chair will communicate the recommendations to the DOF.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 9:45am

Respectfully submitted,
Jörg Bibow