

Minutes of the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC-9)
April 9, 2008
Library 437

Present: Lisa Aronson, Sue Bender, John Brueggemann, Dan Curley (scribe), Mark Huibregste, Mehmet Odekon, Viviana Rangil, Mason Stokes

1. Approval of Minutes of March 26 deferred.

2. Meeting with Mike West on retiree health care.

VP of Finance, Mike West outlined contents of a memo soon to be released to the community regarding changes to retiree health care plan (as well as some changes to the plans of current employees). The substance of the memo is complicated but salient points include:

- Discontinuation of the retiree plan for employees hired after September 3, 2008;
- A general shift of retirees from HMO to the Skidmore PPO, with a Medicare-funded preferred Drug Program;
- A three-tier phase-in of the new retiree plan; the last tier would experience slightly higher deductibles in some areas; and
- A savings of 500k annually, and elimination of cost-sharing increases in current employees

After his presentation FEC had some questions about substance, but soon turned to questions of process. Mike's plan was to hold two open meetings with presentations on April 21 and 22, and another open meeting (perhaps 45 min.) the week of April 28 to update the community — and all of this following the release of the memo. Mike thought that the April 25th Faculty Meeting would require a 30 – 45 minute presentation and Q & A. In its discussion following Mike's visit, FEC agreed that the Faculty Meeting should not compete with the open fora. FEC must emphasize to the Faculty that it must do its homework – read the memo, attend an open forum, ask questions of IPPC, and come to the Faculty Meeting prepared to discuss the issue. Dan will communicate all of this to Mike West ASAP.

3. University Without Walls

CEPP is meeting with Jim Kennelly on Thursday. We await the outcome of that meeting as it pertains to the scheduled process announced to the Faculty. If necessary, FEC should advise CEPP as to the potential hazards (such as a backlash vote) if it advocates a process that seems rushed.

4. Leadership of FEC/IPPC next year

John noted that the chairing of FEC next year logically either falls to himself or to Lisa; they will discuss either possibly together. Meanwhile, on IPPC neither Mehmet nor Sue is in a position to serve as vice-chair. John advocated that committee chairs in general not have course releases; but if one chair receives a release, all should receive one. Dan advocated that neither position be shared.

5. Faculty e-mail resolution
Regarding the resolution committed to FEC at Friday's meeting, Dan suggested that FEC take up the issue at the next FEC-9 meeting. There was some sentiment that the resolution could be handled easily.

6. Student Funding/College Events issue
Dan reported receiving an e-mail from a faculty member concerned about external funding being applied to co-curricular events. FEC agreed that this concern, as well as concerns about the College calendar in general, are not FEC issues. Perhaps IPPC would take them up.

7. Service Compensation Proposal
Dan asked Mehmet to circulate via e-mail proposal on faculty receiving compensation for service. FEC will read it and come prepared to discuss it in two weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Curley