

Minutes of Faculty Executive Committee

FEC-9

Friday September 21, 2007

12:00-1:30

Scribner Library 437

Present: Susan Bender, John Brueggemann, Dan Curley (chair), Mark Huibregste, Viviana Rangil, Paty Rubio, Mason Stokes

1. Minutes of September 7, 2007 approved.
2. Mark Huibregste shared his report from the 9/20/07 IPPC meeting. Some questions that arose with respect to the report were:
 - What is FEC's role in disseminating the Strategic Action Plan (SAA)? *FEC agreed that it should insure that appropriate conversations occur across committees whose work is impacted by the SAA.*
 - What is the process for faculty input into the items included on the plan? *FEC agreed that it is the body that should be responsible for insuring that such a process exists. Two action items were agreed upon: (1) Faculty representatives on IPPC should ask about mechanisms for faculty input at the next IPPC meeting; (2) FEC will also raise this question with VPAA Susan Kress and DOF Muriel Poston at its next meeting with them.*

Mark Huibregste also reported that Mike West (VP Finance) will present background information on changes to the retiree healthcare plan at the next IPPC meeting (9/28).

The remaining schedule for this discussion is:

- 10/5- Budget and Finance subcommittee of IPPC will focus on the transition for employees (who began their appointment after 1999) into the new/no retiree plan
- 10/12- Transition plan discussed by full IPPC
- 10/18- Open community meeting on proposed changes
- 11/ 5- Mike West reports to faculty on preliminary recommendations made to the Board of Trustees at the October meeting
- May '08- Work complete, final approval

FEC agreed to invite Mike West to meet and discuss the pending changes at its October 5th meeting.

3. A concern was raised about how the report from the Task Force on Course Releases might be implemented. To insure that an appropriate process is followed, *FEC will ask Dean Poston about her intentions in this regard.*
4. FEC considered the process of selecting faculty to serve on the Dean of Student Affairs search committee. It was agreed that, *unless an extraordinary number of faculty are willing to assume the task, it will issue a willingness-to-serve ballot and then pass candidates thus identified on to CAPT, who will make the final selection.*

5. FEC Considered the Dean of Studies request that he be released from serving on the Self Determined Majors subcommittee of Curriculum Committee. *Because of the invaluable perspective brought to conversations about questionable proposals by the DOS, it was decided that the best compromise was to simply ask the DOS to attend SDM meetings on an as-needed basis only.* All agreed that is desirable that a permanent representative from the DOS should be identified as soon as possible.

6. FEC considered VPAA Kress' suggestion that a major portion of the October faculty meeting be devoted to a discussion of issues surrounding academic freedom. *FEC agreed that this is a good idea, but a robust discussion of this topic is best supported by faculty response to the proposed new text of Part VI of the Faculty Handbook, where these issues are germane.*

7. FEC discussed the current draft of the policy section of the Faculty Handbook, Part VI. *Members were struck by the punitive tone of the document, but deferred substantive discussion to a later date.*

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Bender