

Minutes of the Faculty Executive Committee

FEC-6

Friday, September 28, 2007

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Scribner Library 437

Present: Una Bray, John Brueggemann (scribe), Dan Curley (Chair), Viviana Rangil, Paty Rubio, Mason Stokes.

1. Minutes of FEC-6, September 14 2007 were approved without changes.

2. Part VI of the Faculty Handbook

Susan Kress accepted FEC's suggestion that we discuss issues of academic freedom and related topics in the context of Part XI of the Faculty Handbook. Articles VII-VIII, which pertain to procedures, are not yet fully drafted and therefore will not be discussed.

Dan reported on the complex negotiations of the "Part VI Working Group" (Dan Curly, Mary Lynne, Dick Hihn, Herb Crossman, Barbara Beck, Muriel Posten, Susan Kress) in drafting Part VI. This project extends from earlier work taken up by FEC and Academic Affairs.

We discussed various concerns about how this work will move forward, including the dilemmas of faculty (and FEC in particular) of needing to buy in to or endorse FH language that is based only on abstract understanding of the issues without much evidence of concrete cases to inform our deliberations. The faculty will likely have a difficult time in grasping the different kinds of cases we might face. The Red Book appears to be one of the few sources of guidance and clarity that we might emulate in this context.

Concern was expressed over the fact that HR has a document stipulating the responsibilities of the ADEWD, which it has declined sharing with Una Bray.

3. Election Update

Most of our slots were filled through recent efforts, but we remain 2-3 people short on the Integrity Board. (We were uncertain whether Beth Gershuny's nonattendance was considered in the count or not.) Dan will send an email to faculty who previously expressed willingness to serve on various committees who might consider now joining IB.

4. Athletic Council Proposal

We agreed the changes to the proposed new Athletic Council language for the Faculty Handbook is much improved. Concern was expressed about the commitment to faculty carrying out reviews of Physical Activity courses since that could be a lot of work and is a bit unusual. Dan agreed to pass on our concern to AC.

5. Committee on Academic Standing Proposal.

We agreed the proposal looks fine.

6. Round One of Regular Elections.

Viviana will take the lead with Paty in support. The Willingness to Serve process will become active Thursday, October 4. Dan will remind faculty at the Faculty Meeting the next day. The intended deadline will be Wednesday, October 10, pending sufficient candidates. So, the overall process will unfold as follows.

Dan sends an email to faculty with the election schedule. Viviana contacts the Executive Secretary, Sue Blair, who she provides FEC with details of what spots need to be filled. Viviana sends a draft of the Willingness to Serve form to FEC-9 and receives feedback. Viviana sends form to faculty by October 4. She provides faculty (via FEC-eligible-list) with daily updates on candidates. After the Willingness to Serve deadline, Viviana directs Sue Blair to trigger the technical process of initiating the election. FEC discusses contingencies of this work by email as developments unfold.

7. Faculty Handbook Revisions

Mason (Part II) and Viviana (Part III, IV) diligently submitted editorial comments of their designated sections of the FH. Due to inordinately busy schedules and substantial contributions to the College in other spheres, Paty (Part I) and John (Part V) declined to submit their work this week but agreed to endeavor strenuously to complete their tasks in a timely fashion.

8. The committee was pleased to welcome a new member to FEC-6, Professor Una Bray.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,

John Brueggemann