Faculty Executive Committee Meeting Minutes April 13, 2011

Present: Barbara Black, Ben Givan (scribe), Pat Hilleren, Dan Hurwitz, Reg Lilly, Natalie Taylor

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 30, 2011, meeting were approved. The minutes from the April 6, 2011, meeting were approved with revisions.

2. Round IV WTS Progress Report

The Round IV WTS will run for two more days; candidates are still needed for a number of committees, including two-year vacancies on CAPT and CAS.

3. Committee of Committees Meeting

The Committee of Committees Meeting has been provisionally scheduled for Friday, May 6. Once this date is confirmed, committee chairs will be notified.

4. Open Faculty Forum

Various issues were discussed pertaining to the upcoming April 15 Open Faculty Forum on the "Transition and Transformation" initiative. In the next day or so, the FEC chair will send an email to all faculty reminding them about the forum. A good deal of discussion ensured regarding how this forthcoming email might be worded in order to convey the import of the matter at hand, and thus to maximize faculty turnout.

6. FEC Meeting with the Dean of the Faculty and CEPP chair

The FEC chair and three additional FEC members (the two others were unavailable) recently met with the Dean of the Faculty and CEPP chair to discuss the genesis of the Transition and Transformation working group. The FEC has some concerns about the process by which this working group was constituted and the nature and extent of faculty involvement. The Transition and Transformation initiative appears to have clear curricular ramifications, yet the substantive role of faculty in the initiative seems to have been quite limited. Email communications between the Dean of Faculty and FEC about this initiative are ongoing.

7. Board of Trustees Observer Notes

The FEC chair encouraged committee members to submit their faculty observer notes from the most recent Board of Trustees meeting in short order.

8. Committee Chair Emoluments

The question of compensation for Committee Chairs—in the form of either teaching load reductions or monetary remuneration—has yet to be resolved in discussions with the Dean of the Faculty. The consensus among FEC members is that such emoluments ought to be administered more equitably and with greater transparency about policies and procedures.

9. Proposal for changes to faculty meeting procedures

The FEC has received an email from a member of the faculty proposing a number of changes to the handbook language describing the faculty meeting bylaws. The FEC members are disposed to considering changes to the bylaws, but are inclined to wait until the fall semester to take up this issue.

10. Dinner

The FEC chair plans to extend a dinner invitation to all members of the 2010–11 FEC. T-shirt sizes were submitted.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Givan