

**Faculty Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 28, 2012
8:30-9:30 a.m.**

Present: April Bernard, Barbara Black (chair and scribe), Jörg Bibow, Paul Sattler, Natalie Taylor

I. Minutes for 3/21 approved, pending changes, which April will resend to committee.

Updates: The Dean has informed the FEC chair that the FH language changes (due to the recombination of the DOF and VPAA) have been delayed. FEC is awaiting these and will review them when we receive them.

The chair reported that the Political Activity Group accepted FEC's recommendation for a "committee of the whole" discussion of the Political Activity draft proposal at the next faculty meeting. At that meeting of the working group (which the FEC chair attended), VPAA Susan Kress pointed out that there is a full pipeline of motions and that our next two faculty meetings will likely be packed. The possibility of an additional faculty meeting (on May 4) or an open forum in order to allow for discussion and gather faculty input on these motions was raised. The chair reports that the group in the room preferred the additional faculty meeting to an open forum.

Jörg Bibow—who is keeping track of changes we make throughout the year to our operating code—will add to our OC a reminder to review the year's schedule of faculty meetings against a calendar of religious holidays. This list has been promised to FEC by Skidmore's campus religious leaders.

II. Update on special WTS/election.

Natalie Taylor, who is overseeing this special WTS/election, brought the ballot to the meeting for our review. The voting will begin today and conclude at 4:00 on April 3. Natalie will send reminders to the faculty to vote on Friday and Monday.

III. CAS motion regarding membership.

FEC resumed its discussion of this motion. We want to make certain that this change in membership makes sense, that it is not just language catching up to a reality that has perhaps developed in unintentional ways. To prepare for our next meeting, we agreed to review the new CAS operating code that our web author, Paul Sattler, recently posted on the governance website. A better sense of how CAS functions will help FEC in its review of the motion and the motion's rationale, thereby helping CAS to make a strong case for the changes it wishes to codify. FEC had a quick but important discussion about the parameters of our authority.

The chair will follow up with CAS chair Katie Hauser to keep her and her committee apprised as to our concerns and to our progress. It seems unlikely that this motion will be ready for the April 6 faculty meeting, so we will aim for April 27.

Items IV and VI will lie over for another meeting.

V. Query about the status of librarians at Skidmore.

Natalie explained a query she received from a librarian, who expressed concern about the faculty status of librarians at Skidmore. This librarian had noticed that the yoking of library and IT seems to be leading to an erosion of the librarians' position as faculty as opposed to staff and/or administration.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara