

Minutes of the Faculty Assembly Meeting - December 5th 2003

The third Faculty Assembly meeting was held on Friday December 5th at 10 a.m. in ED 119. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Michele Acker-Hocevar (Chair). Those present: Drs. Perry Schoon, Dilys Schoorman, Greg Aloia, Eileen Ariza, Ira Bogotch, Michael Brady, Valerie Bristol, Gail Burnaford, Ray Cafolla, Carlos Diaz, Mary Lou Duffy, Deborah Floyd, Allison Ford, Michael Frain, Barbra Fries, Penelope Fritzer, Rose Gatens, Lucy Guglielmino, Deb Harris, Toni Kirkwood, Larry Kontosh, Susanne Lapp, Mary Lieberman, Joan Lindgren, Philomena Marinaccio, Pat Maslin-Ostrowski, Carmen Morales-Jones, Dan Morris, Dan Oswald, Paul Peluso, Don Ploger, Barbara Ridener, Sally Robison, Lydia Smiley, Dale Williams, Cynthia Wilson, Hanizah Zainuddin.

Welcome and Update

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10.10 a.m. when Michele welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those present for making it though it was finals week. She also informed everyone that because Dilys had experienced difficulty taking adequate notes and participating meaningfully at the October meeting, that the Steering Committee had decided that she be allowed to tape record all meetings held under the auspices of the general Faculty Assembly. (i.e. This would not include the Faculty Assembly sub-committees.) The minutes of the October 17th meeting were then approved. Lucy Guglielmino moved and Dale Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Reports from Committees

Democratic Decision Making and Communications Committee (DDMCC)

Pat Maslin-Ostrowski, chair of the DDMCC reported that the committee had met that morning with Vilma Petrovsky to discuss budget and fundraising. She also reported that the committee had been involved in crafting some of the questions for President Brogan (who had been scheduled to attend the meeting). Pat clarified that the DDMCC committee would be willing to address issues pertaining to Promotion and Tenure that had been raised by faculty. Pat also noted that the committee had wanted to know why President Brogan had not come to our meeting, as planned. She also reminded us that the members of the DDMCC were: Don Ploger, Rose Gatens, Carlos Diaz, Lilyanna Zmijak and Mary Lou Caldwell. Michele Acker-Hocevar sits in on these meetings as a representative from Faculty Assembly.

Michele went on to explain that one of the three officers sat in on all sub-committee meetings in order to facilitate communication between sub-committees and the Steering Committee. This allows the leadership team to be in touch with the emerging issues and concerns on all committees.

Equity in Assignments Committee (EAC)

Ira Bogotch, chair of the EAC reported that the committee had met twice since the last Faculty Assembly meeting - once on the McArthur campus and then on the Davie campus. The committee had designed a survey to identify differences in assignments across departments, which would be given to the chairs. He and Dilys had asked to be on the agenda of Executive Committee Meeting where they would present the survey to the chairs on December 10th. The committee had also designed a survey that would measure perceptual variables, which would go out to individual faculty members after the chair survey. The faculty survey would be administered following the Faculty Assembly format of the electronic survey. Ira also reminded us of the membership of the

Pat, speaking on behalf of the DDMCC and Michele, on behalf of Faculty AssDDMCC and Mi

and b) faculty members who had been assigned to pose the questions. Once it became clearer that president Brogan might not have as much time with us as originally planned, the Leadership Team combined and edited questions that were distributed at the meeting. The Steering Committee had been involved and kept apprised of all developments with regard to planning this meeting.

Dean Aloia commented that although the President had visited other colleges, no other college had organized the visit in this way. He noted that he had shared this idea with other deans who had received it with interest. He also observed that the deferred visit gave us time to take another look at the questions and modify them if needed.

Procedures for Elections

Dilys distributed a rubric which demonstrated how the Leadership Team was thinking about running elections. In keeping with the current constitution's position that nominations should be made at the last Faculty Assembly meeting and the results announced before the end of the semester, a timeline was passed out to faculty. The plan was to take nominations for all three positions on April 2nd, conduct an electronic vote for chair in the week of April 5th -9th. Then the results of that vote would be announced on April 12th and the vote for Vice Chair would be held April 12th-16th. (Nominees who did not win in the previous election would be given the opportunity to run for subsequent .Td beld be announced on .3(.T)Tj-22.t

violations. Given the lack of consensus, Michele noted that the issue would have to be revisited (if needed) at another time.

Survey data

Michele explained that in the interest of confidentiality, data gathered through surveys administered by **this** Faculty Assembly would remain with the Leadership team. A version edited to assure confidentiality would be shared with the Steering Committee. This would be made available to individual faculty members who might be interested in specific data. All results emerging from data would be shared with the Assembly. This decision resulted from a concern raised within the Steering Committee that an individual faculty member might not be as forthcoming in their responses to surveys if they knew that the raw data would be distributed widely. Pat Maslin Ostrowski applauded the Leadership Team for their data gathering efforts, especially their use of technology for this process. Michele acknowledged the invaluable role that Perry Schoon had played in allowing a quick turn-around on data gathered.

Sally Robison posed a question on the confidentiality of the voting process proposed. Perry explained that the voting would be set up in the same way as the first survey had been, where sign-up information went into a separate data base from the actual responses.

Constitution

The Leadership Team noted that the Steering Committee would be looking at the constitution in order to update and make necessary modifications. This had become necessary because of several documents located in the Faculty Assembly archives that indicated that amendments to the constitution had been proposed and accepted but not reflected in the current version available. Faculty were asked to e-mail their suggestions of any modifications to the constitution to their Steering Committee representatives or to Michele, Perry or Dilys.

Dean's Report

Dean Aloia announced that he would be meeting with Palm Beach County Schools and would like to have information about what it was we already did in partnership with the

third floor' and give faculty the opportunity of getting together. He asked for preferred times and the faculty decided that 12-2 was the best.

With regard to budget goals, Dean Aloia noted that in his first year he had few responses on how the college determined its budget, and in his second year, the departments developed budgets from which the college budget was extrapolated. He underscored his desire to align departmental and college needs in a manner that was rational and simple, and to make sure that, if there were a budget increase, money would come back to the college. He noted his concern that currently there was no relationship between the efforts of the college and its budget.

Responding to questions, Dean Aloia confirmed that faculty members would have an opportunity to provide input on their department's budget needs, and that departments working on Ph.D. proposals should continue that work. He noted without the proposals we would definitely have no means for requesting funding for graduate programs. He underscored the support that the college had received through Larry Lemanski's office, in the fact that we had quadrupled the number of graduate assistantships for this year.

Adjournment

Michele asked if there was any other business to be discussed. There was none. Ray Cafolla moved and Joan Lindgren seconded that we adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11.55 a.m.

Submitted by:
Dilys Schoorman
Secretary, Faculty Assembly