

Minutes of Faculty Assembly Steering Committee Meeting
January 16, 2004

The Faculty Assembly Steering Committee met on Friday January 16th 2004 at the Melby Center. The meeting was presided over by Michele Acker Hocevar. Those present: Ali Danesh, Mike Brady, Deb Floyd, Paul Rie, Perry Schoon and Dilys Schoorman. Guest: Glenn Thomas.

Welcome

Michele welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the New Year. She noted that we needed to be thinking about how we determine our success as a Steering Committee. She also noted that a crucial concern among faculty was the leadership for next year, so that the reciprocity of dialogue would continue among faculty and between faculty and administration. She encouraged the members to think about people whom they would encourage to run for office.

motion would be presented from the Steering Committee to have Perry continue as Vice Chair of the Faculty Assembly.

Dilys, speaking on behalf of Allison who had e-mailed the officers, noted that a member of the ESHP department had requested that the Faculty Assembly put on its agenda the following proposed change in P&T criteria: Candidates would be required to publish one book (or article) per year of service. (The current criterion is one article per year or one book for the entire 5 years.) Perry suggested that this, as well as any other changes relating to P&T, be referred to the DDMCC, which was responsible for crafting recommendations for P&T. Deb noted that it was important that all changes suggested with regard to P&T criteria be made such that candidates already in process towards tenure be "grandparented" in, so as not to be adversely affected by changes made halfway through their tenure. Michele also added that the DDMCC had been concerned about the best way to gather data about P&T. The committee recommended the use of an electronic survey, as had been conducted by Faculty Assembly.

Additional concerns from the departments included the need to examine the departmental procedures for voting on P&T (process unclear in one department; published procedures ambiguous). Dilys also informed the committee about an anonymous letter written to the Department Chair of Teacher Education, which appeared to attack the democratic procedures that were being established in that department.

Review of Constitution

Michele noted that the DDMCC had already addressed the following as areas for change

Additional business

Responding to a request of a committee member, Deb clarified that the dates for Faculty Assembly meetings were: February 6th and April 2nd. Although there seemed to be no need for the Steering Committee to meet on March 5th as originally planned, Michele asked that we keep that date in case we added a meeting.

Added discussion on inviting the Provost into the importance of a) making this an invitation specifically from Faculty Assembly and b) using this as an opportunity to provide him with useful data about our college. It was underscored that this would be a different meeting than the one planned for President Brogan.

Perry noted the importance for Faculty Assembly to show results, and that we should make sure that we vote on recommendations made by each sub-committee this semester.

Deb emphasized the importance of negotiating a time for the officers, including the Vice Chair. We also addressed the importance of finding ways to archive information, so that we had a means for maintaining records of decisions taken by the Assembly. (This is in response to the fact that we have found minutes from past meetings, which have indicated the adoption of policy about which we have been unaware.)

Michele thanked everyone for their input. The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.