

**Newark Faculty Council  
Minutes  
Meeting of December 2, 1996**

**In attendance:** Nabil Adam, Chair; Fran Bartkowski, Anne-Marie Cantwell, Harvey Feder, Janice Friedland, Ted Hollander, Ron Hart, Judy Jeng, Asela Laguna, Roger Lalancette, Don McCabe, Beth Norman, John Payne, Phylis Peterman, John Randall, Norman Samuels, Norman Schnayer, Gene Vincenti.

**Absent:** Henry Christian, Jan Lewis, Mary Ann Scoloveno, James Finckenauer, Miklos Vasarhelyi, Barbara Stern, Marcia Whicker, Alfred Slocum, Ray Smith, Geraldine Brooks.

**I. Provost's Report**

Provost Samuels introduced Janice Friedland who had previously been with the New Brunswick Provost Office and has replaced Sylvia Wolkstein as Assistant to the Provost. He reported on the following:

- Dr. Samuels confirmed that President Lawrence has appointed members to the Committee for the Future, which will begin implementation of the Strategic Plan. Thanks to the efforts of Associate Provost Harvey Feder, the Newark campus anticipates receiving SROA funding for projects in the amount of \$860,000 (which is \$200,000 more than the campus "contributed").
- Dr. Samuels commented on a letter from Presidents Stanley Bergen (UMDNJ), Saul Fenster (NJIT) and Frances Lawrence to Irvin D. Reid, President of Montclair State University, contesting Montclair State's intention to establish doctoral programs in Applied Linguistics, Environmental Management and Science, and Pedagogy. Such programs would duplicate existing Rutgers offerings and would require additional state resources. He noted that although the president's recognition of Newark faculty's concerns was necessary and much appreciated, the Commission on Higher Education will undoubtedly approve Montclair State's programs.

Asela Laguna asked the provost to comment on Money Magazine's recent report according Newark the status of most dangerous U.S. city. Dr. Samuels stressed the need for greater response to this sort of reporting, since such statistics reflect the city at large and are not valid for the campus vicinity. A response from the mayor of Newark has appeared in the newspaper. It was suggested that Admissions be encouraged to present a more positive portrayal of the Newark campus in recruiting efforts and publicity packets,

and that faculty remember to mention the campus safety record in orientation meetings.

## **II. Report of the Chair**

Nabil Adam reported on the president's visit last week and thanked all who participated. Although Dr. Lawrence did not commit to specific items, the meeting was positive, and he indicated he would be happy to make another visit.

Dr. Adam also reported that the nine members (three from each campus) of the President's Advisory Committee has met. Paul Leath sent a letter on behalf of the committee to President Lawrence on November 6, to which no reply has yet been received. Vice President Seneca will meet with the committee soon in a preliminary effort to establish a process for meetings with the president.

Dr. Adam asked for suggestions from council members on how to best proceed with implementation of strategic planning initiatives, in order to move more quickly toward achieving Research University II status. He noted that the president was reluctant to openly endorse this goal during his visit.

Dr. Samuels responded that the president may have been concerned that an open endorsement would commit the university to budgetary and financial support. The general feeling was that since the president had already approved the Newark Strategic Plan, in which the Research University II goal was clearly stated, the Newark campus is justified in proceeding in that direction.

It was agreed that achieving Research University II status requires more effort to obtain grant money and outside funding, while waiting for university support to materialize.

## **III. Upgrade of University Library Catalog**

Ron Hart reported on a presentation given by Marianne Gaunt, Acting University Librarian. The Library is attempting to replace the old IRIS catalog software with a new system from the SIRSI Corporation, which would be an efficient solution to the Library's needs. Marianne Gaunt has requested the Newark Faculty Council to address a letter to Joseph Seneca endorsing funding for this new product. Funding will be approximately \$1,000,000 (\$500,000 for the system purchase and another \$500,000 for support). Hardware support for the old IRIS system is no longer reliable and the system could crash at any time. One concern, also expressed by CSPAD in their analysis of the strategic planning initiatives, was that a new library acquisition must not be cannibalized from the Library's journal budget. It was suggested that this concern be echoed in the Faculty Council letter to Dr. Seneca.



Dr. Samuels noted that one of the Middle States review topics has combined computing and library concerns into a single study. He does not believe, however, that advances in computing will be made at the expense of book collection, but that a useful balance will be made.

A motion to accept a draft of a letter to Dr. Seneca supporting the Library's acquisition of the SIRSI system was unanimously passed.

#### IV. UMDNJ - Ph.D. Program in Nursing

Elizabeth Norman opened discussion on UMDNJ's moves to establish a doctoral program in nursing. A copy of a letter from UMDNJ to Wayne State University in Detroit requesting materials on their doctoral program in nursing was presented as evidence of UMDNJ's plans. Dr. Norman noted that Dean Hurdis Griffith had met with Stanley Bergen previously to discuss improving collaborative relationships with UMDNJ, at which time this initiative was not mentioned.

Provost Samuels pointed out that this situation differs from the one with Montclair State because UMDNJ already is authorized to have a doctoral program, whereas Montclair State would be moving into a new area. It was noted that UMDNJ's nursing program was established during a nursing shortage. Since this is no longer a need, the medical school is looking to attract more students and faculty. However, a second state-funded doctoral program in nursing, directly adjacent to the already flourishing program at Rutgers, would be superfluous. Dr. Griffith will be meeting with Dr. Bergen shortly. Beth Norman will draft a letter alerting President Lawrence to this duplication of programs, but will hold it until after Drs. Griffith and Bergen meet.

#### V. Subcommittee Reports

Ron Hart and John Randall will report on their committees at the next meeting.

##### Academic Affairs Committee

Phylis Peterman reported that she and Frances Bartkowski have met to discuss issues for the committee to study during the academic year. They have suggested three possible areas: the role of the Academic Affairs Committee in the Middle States reaccreditation process; obtaining information on Rutgers Newark faculty committees dealing with admissions and scholastic standing; and an examination of Newark's decline in college rankings, including the recent reporting in Money Magazine.

Provost Samuels suggested the committee consult with Associate Provosts Harvey Feder on the Middle States process and Ray Smith on Admissions issues. Nabil Adam suggested that the committee update the Faculty Council on current and new academic initiatives, and examine means to improve the research environment in Newark and attract students to doctoral programs.


Members were encouraged to indicate their committee preferences.

#### VI. New Business

Dr. Peterman announced a reading of Camus' The Plague to commemorate World Aids Day, at 1:00 p.m. today at the Robeson Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Newark Faculty Council will be on Monday, February 3, 1997 at 11:30 a.m. in the Provost's Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Janice Friedland  
Assistant to the Provost