

**Newark Faculty Council**  
**February 9, 1998 - 11:30 a.m.**  
**Provost's Conference Room**  
**Minutes**

**I. Provost's Report**

- A. Provost Norman Samuels reported on the following matters:
- Deans Searches - Searches are progressing for FAS-N and SCJ deans. The FAS-N dean search committee is currently interviewing internal (3) and external candidates and will select three finalists shortly. The SCJ dean search committee has also begun interviewing. A search committee is also being selected for Faculty of Management dean, to include seven faculty members, as well as student and administrative representatives.
  - Contract settlements - The PTL contract was just settled. Dr. Samuels noted that since contract settlements are two years overdue, a new round of negotiations will begin next fall. Administrative salaries (t-coded) are still being discussed.
  - Reinvestment in Rutgers (RIR) - A report is available providing a list of projects.
  - Budget - The Provost noted that although the governor has made new commitments to state colleges, they will be contingent on specific improvements and other criteria. He also pointed out that benefits will be paid from the general university budget, no longer to be funded separately by the State, thus increasing the university burden to meet the demands of contracted salary increases.
- B. Ray Smith reported on the Robeson Campus Center diversity celebration held on Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. He encouraged all to visit the campus center Multipurpose Room where flags of about 73 nations representing the diverse campus population are displayed. The lack of student attendance, not unique to this event, was discussed. Dr. Samuels reaffirmed the need for a stronger campus newsletter, to publicize events. Also suggested was increased use of video monitors.
- C. Middlestates Visit - Harvey Feder reported that a four-page summary of the Self Study has been distributed. The Newark Faculty Council will meet with a subset of the visiting team tentatively on March 31, 9:45-10:45 in the Provost's Office. The Middlestates Team, he said, is composed mostly of administrators selected by the Middlestates Office.

**The next Faculty Council meeting will be used to prepare for the Middlestates review team's visit, to decide upon structure and focus. Council members are advised to keep their agendas open on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of March. Please e-mail questions and suggestions to Asela Laguna-Diaz (arlaguna@andromeda) before the next meeting.**

**II. Report on Undergraduate Education**

FAS-N Dean, David Hosford, commented on the state of undergraduate education on campus. On the positive side, the FAS-N/UC-N faculty has become very strong, with several



new high caliber junior appointments. New initiatives include the Honors Council and new degree programs in Environmental Science/Civil Engineering (with NJIT) and in Design (BFA). Academic support services include a new undergraduate Writing Center to open in Hill Hall. A Director of Pre-college Services will soon be hired.

Dean Hosford stressed the importance of undergraduate education, emphasizing the campus mission to serve students who would not otherwise have had an opportunity to attend college. He expressed concern that faculty have lost sight of this primary purpose. Dr. Samuels suggested that it would be helpful if Dean Hosford would put his overview in writing.

Also discussed was a need to improve study skills by increasing workshops as part of a more extensive campus-wide orientation process such as that now available to EOF students.

### **III Subcommittee Reports**

- A. **Facilities/Security/Campus Safety** - Roger Lalancette reported that this subcommittee met with Chief Otto Cilenti and Jimmy Rivera of the Campus Police Department. The police have been responding to problems of auto theft and parking space. They are equipped with extra gas, battery chargers, etc. to assist drivers. The committee will consult with Martin Ryan of Physical Plant to insure that elevators in Hill Hall are serviced. Broken sidewalks have been reported. Red bulletin boards will be placed in all buildings to report police issues. It was also reported that violent crime is down on campus although petty crime is the same. Council members expressed concern about continued computer theft. The Provost noted that issuance of key cards is not practical on campus, and hiring extra guards would not be cost effective. Gene Vincenti noted that in the campus police is reinforced by police from the neighboring campuses, the subway system, and the city of Newark (soon to be increased).
- B. **Academic Affairs** - Mary Ann Scoloveno reported that this subcommittee has discussed the impact of the Honors College, suggesting that it be monitored to assure that students were not being segregated into honors courses. Dr. Samuels noted that the honors program formally is concentrated in FAS-N, but that discussions for cooperation with other units (FoM, Nursing) are underway. It was suggested that Liz Mitchell be asked to provide periodic reports. The committee also would like to invite Barbara Gross of the Writing Center to talk at a future faculty council meeting.

### **IV. Chair's Report**

Dr. Laguna-Diaz postponed her report, but indicated that she is drafting a letter to President Lawrence on Presidential Scholarship allocations which she will distribute to council members for comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Newark Faculty Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.