

Newark Faculty Council  
Minutes  
of the  
February 8, 1993 meeting  
Provost's Conference Room

UVUSI - NEWARK

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Present: Professors Adam, Adler, Borisovets, Cali, Caprio, Christian, Jordan, Kimball, Kurzweil, Miller (for Ferguson) Price, Scoloveno, Shaw, Slocum, Tractenburg, Whitcomb, Yarcheski, Mr. Ramsey, Dr. Russell, Mr. Vincenti, Ms. Wolkstein, Provost Samuels, President Lawrence.

Absent: Prof. Gartenberg

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM by the Chair. In order to accommodate the President's schedule, the agenda was modified to allow for President Lawrence to address the Council and answer questions.

The President discussed two broad issues: (1) the state of the University's asking budget within the framework of the Governor's budget message, and (2) issues relating to the recent changes in how Board of Governors meetings will be run.

The President discussed the recent history of state budget shortfalls, with some detail paid to the salary and base budget accounts. He pointed out, for example, that between 1984 and 1988, the state transferred approximately 94 percent of the contractual salary increases, a figure which has declined to 24 percent for the 1989-1992 period. He reported that the new budget will assume savings from two sources: there will most likely be an early retirement program and there will be estimates of savings from attrition. In addition, there most likely will be some form of a tuition stabilization plan. The President pointed out that the key issues for Rutgers would be (1) a level budget for FY94, and full funding of salary increases. He then turned to how his office is attempting to secure these goals, and how he might be able to channel faculty (and other community) support for these goals.

Discussion of these issues focused upon how the faculty might be useful, and strategies being developed by the President's office to mobilize key groups.

In addressing the second item on his agenda -- the Board of Governors meetings, the President outlined the steps taken by his administration to develop a dialogue with certain groups, and his decision that the Board must be allowed to proceed with their meetings in an orderly manner. Discussion on this and related matters followed.

Following the President's presentation, there was discussion on the major points raised. There was general support for inviting Sharon Ainsworth to meet with the NFC in order that we become better informed of the strategies she is developing with respect to representation of University interests in Trenton. There was also agreement that such dialogue might provide her with opportunities to make better use of faculty resources in these efforts. This was agreed to by those present and a special NFC meeting was scheduled for February 22 at 11:30 AM.

Discussion then turned to the President's call for a more uniform public message on behalf of the University, and the need for the faculty and administration not to work at odds with each other when the issue is the level of state funding for the university. It was suggested that it might be productive to invite representatives of the AAUP to meet with the NFC to discuss their possible public position when budget hearings are underway. This suggestion also received general support and the Chair indicated he would pursue invitations.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50AM.

Respectfully submitted by

  
Raphael J. Caprio  
Secretary