

Newark Faculty Council
Minutes
October 20, 1997 - Provost's Conference Room

In attendance: Anne-Marie Cantwell, Ronald Hart, Carol Heffernan, Marc Holzer, Judy Jeng, Asela Laguna-Diaz, John Graham, John Payne, Charles Russell, Diana Sclar, Mary Ann Scoloveno, Barbara Stern, Ted Szatrowski, Miklos Vasarhelyi, Norman Samuels, Ray Smith, Gene Vincenti, Janice Friedland.

I. Chair's Report

Asela Laguna-Diaz welcomed John Graham of the Economics Department who is replacing Jan Lewis on the Faculty Council. She reported on the following matters:

- Reminded members to inform their constituencies of items discussed in NFC meetings, to copy the minutes for distribution to faculty, and to solicit feedback.
- Requested council members to select one of three NFC committees (list attached).
- Rutgers-Newark Honors College - Dr. Laguna-Diaz described the program being promoted by NCAS and designed by Elizabeth Mitchell and members of an oversight committee established by FAS dean David Hosford. Other units, including the Faculty of Management and Nursing School were concerned that they were not informed of this initiative. Charles Russell explained that the program was confined at the moment to NCAS as an expansion of the existing honors program. Provost Samuels confirmed that NCAS resources are being utilized for the program exclusively. Asela suggested the council's Academic Affairs committee ask Liz Mitchell to attend the next meeting to clarify some questions including how the Admissions Department will be involved and whether Carr scholars will be eligible.
- Asela noted that contrary to recent reports, there are no immediate plans for a Portuguese Major, although several new courses are being formulated. The first Portuguese World Festival will soon be in progress, in conjunction with the NJPAC.

II. Provost's Report

Dr. Samuels described NJPAC opening night as a truly spectacular event. He reported on the following matters:

- Science Park, a joint venture of the four public universities in Newark, is expected to attract research and medical firms to the area from New York City, which could inspire new construction. He suggested inviting someone to speak about this venture to the council at a future meeting.
- Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Center of Law and Justice were held October 6.
- Dr. Samuels reported that the AFSCME unions have settled and that the university and the AAUP are now waiting for the fact finder to make recommendations, expected in early November. The merit component of the package is a major point of contention.

III. Update on Student Services/Campus Center

Ray Smith noted that Student Services' goals complement those of the academic areas - to serve, educate and learn. Three major Student Services divisions report to the provost (Campus Center, Athletics/Recreation, Housing & Residence Life), while certain others report to New Brunswick (Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar, Health). This poses some overlap in administration and reporting. Mr. Smith also reported on the following:

- Recent hires include:
 - Corinne Web replaced Elizabeth Mitchell as Associate VP for Admissions/NB.
 - Soon to start - Director of Admissions for the Newark Campus - Bruce Neimeyer.
 - Financial Aid director - Mel Brown
 - Thomas Bekele-Arcuri is the new Director of Housing & Residence Life.
 - Gerald Massenburg is the Director of the Robeson Campus Center.
 - Assistant Director of the Campus Center - Tom Korp.
 - Barbara Gossett is the new Dean of Students for FAS-N.

- A survey regularly distributed to graduating seniors in the Nursing School and FAS-N has indicated an improvement in student rating of campus services. Dr. Samuels noted that the faculty always receive a positive rating. He and Mr. Smith meet regularly with student leaders.
- Blumenthal Hall's third floor will undergo reconstruction to make it more user-friendly.
- The Campus Center now hosts an increased number of about 1,000 events a year.
- Student organizations need advisors, preferably faculty members. Faculty should indicate their interest to Ray Smith at the Provost's Office.
- A child care facility at NJIT accepts RU-N applicants. There has not been a large response to efforts for a full-time facility on campus. A cooperative drop-off center was suggested.

IV. Campus Communications Overview

Robert Clark described the activities of his department which include:

- Media relations, news releases, etc.
- Campus promotional and science department brochures.
- Contributions to internal university publications such as the Focus and Rutgers Magazine and insuring that Rutgers-Newark is represented.
- Distribution of Accountability Reports.
- Cabinet Updates.

PROFNET, Dr. Clark advised, is an Internet bulletin board which posts queries from reporters around the country. He would like to be able to provide a Rutgers-Newark response to some of the posted queries, and will forward them periodically to selected faculty via e-mail. Faculty should be made aware of this and respond as quickly as possible to queries they receive

from Mr. Clark's office.

Campus events will be reported in a new publication, "What's Happening," which will also be in electronic form.

Reporters for the campus newspaper, the *Observer*, can be requested to submit interview questions in writing to the Dept. of Campus Communications which will assist faculty in formulating responses.

Bob Clark will be meeting in New Brunswick to discuss improvements to the Newark web site. Departments will be offered a number of templates for construction of departmental sites. It was suggested that additional efforts be made to advertise Newark cultural events on the New Jersey events site.

Another suggestion offered was that Mr. Clark's department serve as a clearinghouse for campus events and faculty accomplishments. This information is currently incorporated in the Provost's Cabinet Updates, which will be sent to Newark Faculty Council members in the future along with meeting minutes.

V. Other Business

Discussion followed on the possible availability of NJPAC discount tickets. There is no clear agreement as yet with the arts center.

A draft of the Middlestates Report will soon be circulated.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on **Monday, November 17, 1997 at 11:30 a.m.** in the Provost's Conference Room. Agenda items are to be sent to Janice Friedland (jafried@andromeda or FAX ext. 1048) a week prior to the meeting.