

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

I. Provost's Report

Provost Norman Samuels reported on the following matters:

- Budget - The State's proposed budget does not become effective until July 1st. Legislative lobbying could result in changes before that date. Fringe benefits, which were previously a separate state account, will be placed directly into the base budget, so although the base will increase, the university will be responsible for changes in benefits resulting from recent contract settlements. This eventually would result in a significant deficit. It was also noted that the financial aid package was not increased as much as was publicized.
- Dean Searches - The search committees for deans of the School of Criminal Justice and Faculty of Arts & Sciences have selected final candidates for recommendation to the president. The Faculty of Management dean search committee convened recently and advertisements are being placed. It is expected that deans will be selected for SCJ and FAS-N by the end of June. Efforts will be made to select an FoM dean this summer as well.
- FASIP - Committees in all college departments are in the process of determining guidelines for merit increases which replaced step increases as part of the AAUP settlement with the university.

II Chair's Report

Asela Laguna-Diaz reported on the recent Presidential Advisory Committee's meeting with President Lawrence in New Brunswick. Topics discussed were

- budget
- dean searches
- academic programs of support including more faculty support for EOF and varsity students
- remedial education with emphasis on writing and math skills for non-EOF students
- faculty retirement incentives
- petition to the administration to integrate international students into campus life
- endorsement of recommendation to review how the Senate might function more efficiently and encourage faculty participation in the election of senators.

The next meeting with President Lawrence is scheduled for April 3rd. John Graham will go in place of Asela who is involved in a conference that week.

III Middlestates Preparation

Norman Schnayer noted that this review will be university-wide. The team will be visiting individual campuses, however, offering the opportunity to present Rutgers-Newark in a positive light. The campus self-study, which was included in the university report, closely follows the campus strategic plan. The executive summary of the campus report is on the campus web site and will also be mailed to all faculty and administrators. Dr. Samuels noted that the report was written to promote our successes, and to show the campus is a strong center of graduate and undergraduate education. However, it is also important to demonstrate that RU-N is fully a part of the university, not merely a satellite or branch campus. Focus is to be on the quality of faculty, students, and services, warranting equal support on all campuses.

There will be another meeting to prepare for the Middlestates visit for Newark Faculty Council members on March 19 in the Provost Conference Room.

IV New Business

Dr. Laguna-Diaz reported that she met with Liz Mitchell and asked her to attend an NFC meeting in the fall with a full report on the Honors Program. She will be talking to the provost on ways to increase the program's budget for computers, books and mentoring, possibly through special incentives.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 1998, 11:30 a.m., in the Provost's Conference Room.