

Newark Faculty Council
Minutes
May 11, 1998 - Provost's Conference Room

In attendance: Jane Gilman, Carol Heffernan, Judy Jeng, Barry Komisaruk, Asela Laguna-Diaz, Roger Lalancette, Anne Magro, John Payne, Nancy Redeker, Charles Russell, Barbara Stern, Ted Szatrowski, Norman Samuels, Harvey Feder, Don McCabe, Ray Smith, Gene Vincenti.

I. Provost's Report

Provost Samuels reported on the following matters:

- Deans Searches - Two searches have been completed:
 - SCJ: Dr. Leslie Kennedy, Prof. Of Criminology at the Centre for Criminological Research, University of Alberta, Canada, will begin July 1.
 - FASN: Dr. Steven Diner, an historian specializing in Urban History and American Cities at George Mason University, Washington DC, begins July 1.

The FoM Dean Search Committee is reviewing applications. George Benson will leave on June 1. Rosa Oppenheim has been appointed Acting Dean until September, when it is hoped a new dean will be selected.

- State Budget - Dr. Samuels reported that a reprieve is expected for the university on fringe benefits this year; next year the issue will be renewed with the possibility the university will be required to cover part of the tab.
- Also discussed was the topic of how to handle monetary gifts and contributions. Dr. Samuels urged faculty to contact the appropriate development officer and to keep all contributions confidential.
- Commencement 1998 - The Provost asked that faculty make all efforts to attend their school's commencement exercises as well as those of other colleges.

II. Chair's Report

Asela Laguna-Diaz opened a discussion on a resolution issued by the New Brunswick Faculty Council to regulate the sale by commercial enterprises of lecture notes and course materials. Discussion followed on how to protect information and syllabi on the WWW.

A memorandum was distributed which was sent to Nancy Winterbauer from Dr. Laguna-Diaz and Harvey Feder requesting that a specified number of Outstanding Scholars Recruitment Program (OSRP) scholarships be designated for the Newark Campus.

Asela outlined recommendations for topics to be handled in the fall by the NFC:

- To develop better email procedures for communicating NFC matters.

- To invite reports on the following topics:
 - Honors College Program update (Liz Mitchell)
 - Writing across the curriculum (new FASN Writing Center director)
 - Computing Facilities (Marie Botticelli)
 - Fund raising issues.
- New 1998-99 members were announced for
 - FASN: Ann-Marie Cantwell, Ronald Hart, Myroslava Znayenko
 - SCJ: Mercer Sullivan
 - Law: Jonathan Hyman
 - Nursing: Patricia Hurley *
 - Dana: Wen Ren*

* added after this meeting
- Asela thanked the Council for their participation this year and announced that John Payne would take over next year as Chair. Elections for other officers will take place in June.

III Discussion on President's Faculty Advisory Committee

John Payne noted that Faculty Advisory Committee meetings with President Lawrence did not seem to give the Newark Campus representatives much opportunity to communicate or have a meaningful dialogue with the administration. He suggested the campus would be better served by inviting the President here once or twice a year. It was suggested that the NFC continue to participate in the advisory committee's meetings, in addition to inviting the president to visit the campus once a semester.

IV Discussion of the Merit Process

The revised faculty merit process calls for the elimination of automatic step increases and some reduction in across-the-board increases, but it does make more funds available for increases based on evaluation by committees and the deans. Ted Szatrowski noted that awards will now be distributed among a larger group of faculty, warranting closer examination of the evaluation criteria. He suggested that the NFC poll departmental evaluation committees on their decision-making process - what were their concerns and problems encountered.

Dr. Samuels explained that uniform guidelines were not recommended because it is up to each department to set procedures as per the AAUP agreement. It would be acceptable, however, for the NFC to suggest guidelines. The provost also stated that he is not authorized to disqualify award winners. As long as there is money available, he must go along with the recommendations, but can find higher awards where school allocations fall short.

V. Additional Business

Barry Komisaruk questioned why the university/campus does not do more media advertising, such as in the Star Ledger Education Issue. Don McCabe explained that university policy does not permit use of public funds for this purpose. A New Brunswick committee is discussion this matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. Have a nice summer!!