

Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, October 14, 2002
CLJ - Provost Conference Room - 11:30 a.m.

Minutes

Present: Nabil Adam, Edward Boylan, Kathe Callahan, Nancy Diaz, Dennis Gale, Rachel Hadas, Asela Laguna-Diaz, Noreen Mahon, John Randall, Wen-Hua Ren, Diana Sclar, Barbara Stern, Ted Sztatowski, Adela Yarheski, Myroslava Znayenko; Marcia Brown, Harvey Feder, Carol Martancik, Gary Roth, Gene Vincenti, Heidi Szymanski, Christopher Pye; Steven Diner; Janice Friedland.

I. Chair's Report

John Randall greeted the council members and introductions were made.

II. Provost's Report

Steven Diner reported on the following:

- Enrollment for this year has increased to 10,346, a record number, the growth composed of mostly first-year students. It is important to emphasize this growth to outside constituents, particularly to the members of the Commission on Health Science, Education and Training (Vagelos Commission). The increase in enrollment points to a vibrant, evolving campus.
- We also need to stress the consequences of this increased growth, such as an urgent need for housing and parking on campus. Additional housing and parking construction are included in the campus master plan. Within five years, the goal is to house 3000 resident students.
- Budget: As always, this is an uncertain area. Last year's tuition increase was 9.9% overall, and made up for this year's increased costs, which were mostly labor-related. The tuition increase, however, did not compensate for last year's 5% base budget reduction. Deans were asked to cut 5% last year and 5% this year. Although this year's cuts became unnecessary, the deans have been asked to use the money carefully since further budget changes are possible after the elections.
- University leadership: Norman Samuels is now Acting President, but will continue teaching his Introduction to Political Science course in Newark. He is planning on speaking to Newark Campus faculty shortly.
- Vagelos Commission: The commission's report is expected this afternoon. Faculty will play a central role in discussing and identifying issues. Dr. Diner is also asking the deans to construct a document summarizing their suggestions, comments and concerns. The student government will also have input. Provost Diner asked the Faculty Council to produce a report and set of issues to consider. Dr. Diner also suggested that the Newark Faculty Council go on record in favor of the Vagelos Commission's report with caveats perhaps regarding the

- name/structure of the new institutions.
- Academic advantages of a merger: We have numerous joint programs with NJIT and UMDNJ which are now fragile and difficult to coordinate. One university structure would create more cohesiveness. A number of our students take computer courses at NJIT, but an unequally smaller number of NJIT students are enrolled at RU-N. Two nursing schools (Rutgers and UMDNJ) now coexist, as well as two business schools. As a united institution, Newark's campus would have a stronger voice in state government.
- Chair, John Randall, will establish a sub-committee to discuss this issue at the November 11th meeting.

III. Campus Master Plan

Gene Vincenti and Assistant Planner, Christopher Pye, made a presentation on the Newark Campus Plan through the year 2025. One of the plan's goals is to develop a 'gateway' to the campus with the City of Newark and various transportation organizations. New housing, parking, and expansion of existing buildings is planned. We are also coordinating our efforts within the framework of the growth of the surrounding area, to increase the campus appeal.

IV. New Business

John Randall noted that Ted Szatrowski would be examining the NFC bylaws to determine whether the process of electing officers needs to be revised. He will report at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Newark Faculty Council meeting will be on Monday, November 11th, 11:30 a.m., in the Provost Conference Room, 5th floor of the Center for Law & Justice.