

Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, November 11, 2002
CLJ - Provost Conference Room - 11:30 a.m.
Minutes (amended 2/26/03)

Present: Nabil Adam, Edward Boylan, Kathe Callahan, Nancy Diaz, Brian Ferguson, Dennis Gale, Jonathan Hyman, Asela Laguna-Diaz, Michael Long, Noreen Mahon, John Randall, Wen-Hua Ren, Diana Sclar, Ted Szatrowski, Adela Yarcheski; Steven Diner; Marcia Brown, Harvey Feder, Carol Martancik, Gary Roth, Gene Vincenti,; Janice Friedland

I. Chair's Report

John Randall spoke briefly about the recent changes in the university's central administration, particularly, hiring of President, Richard McCormick

II. Provost's Report

Steven Diner reported on the following:

- Housing plans for the Newark Campus are progressing.
- President McCormick was impressed with the campus upon his visit and is very supportive. He is taking an open posture on the Vagelos Commission report and has met with the governor in an attempt to develop a positive rapport. However, he is in a difficult position since the BoG is not entirely in favor of the merger.
- Dean Searches - A search committee for FASN dean will be selected by next week. Seven of the committee's ten faculty members will be elected by FASN faculty.
- The governor may not look favorably on UMDNJ in the merger process, since it has expressed opposition. The NJIT President and board have supported the plan.

III. Discussion on Vagelos Report

A NFC subcommittee, John Randall, Nabil Adam, and Diana Sclar, met to consider the report. John Randall noted that it may not be useful to voice all concerns in a written report and noted that the faculty would like to have reassurance that some process is being put into place.

Benefits for the Newark Campus:

- Would produce a single/separate institution combining the three Newark schools, offering strength in numbers, and more autonomy. Newark has a large percentage of New Jersey college students.
- The new institution would be better aligned to deal with the City of Newark and other outside constituents - better leverage.
- More construction would be needed to house merged departments - ie. larger lecture facilities.
- Computing could easily be decentralized.
- A larger unified campus would speed the revitalization of the surrounding city and promote building projects

- The merger would create a bigger, better system and promote excellence.

Main Concerns:

- Disproportionate impact on the Newark Campus
- How to deal with the split of the Business and the Nursing schools.
- Would New Brunswick want to establish what they will lack, ie Law School?
- What about recruiting faculty in the interim - what would be the conditions of employment, tenure?
- There needs to be dedicated, ample funding
- A wider range of people than originally outlined must be involved in the decision-making.
- Although the focus on health care may be a priority, other areas must not be ignored.
- Concern was expressed that the merger plans are moving too swiftly, without considering all ramifications, nor permitting full discussion.
- It was noted that the merger will take years to accomplish. Positive planning of a Newark blueprint for the merger would better serve the campus interests and support the Provost in the political environment.
- What savings/costs would there be in a merger - might a business model be developed?
- Would other units experience a decline in funding; would a disproportionate amount of money be dedicated to the medical schools?

Provost Diner noted that by endorsing the vision the campus can progress toward decentralization. The University Senate, recommends merging now and decentralizing later, which he does not support. President McCormick prefers easing into decentralization

Dana Library would like to continue within a unified library system. Dana's main concerns are financing, duplication of expenses in electronic resources, and the loss of research library status.

Dr. Diner further noted that Rutgers-Newark's unique problems must be considered, including retention of existing collaborative programs. An autonomous campus would require an independent electronic library, electronic admissions, etc.

Faculty are urged to forward by email by next Wednesday to the subcommittee any departmental reports or additional comments to attach to the NFC report.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. **The next Newark Faculty Council meeting will be on Monday, February 10, 11:30 a.m., in the Provost Conference Room, 5th floor of**

the Center for Law & Justice.