

Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, April 12, 2004
CLJ - Provost Conference Room - 11:30 a.m.
Minutes

In attendance: N. Adam, J. Christian, N. Diaz, B. Ferguson, D. Gale, J. Graham, J. Hyman, A. Laguna-Diaz, N. Mahon, W. Ren D. Sclar, A. Yarchesky, T. Szatrowski, L. Zaborszky M. Zyanenko; H. Feder, C. Martancik, G. Roth, G. Vincenti; S. Diner; B. Liepold, M. Ryan; J. Friedland

I. Provost's Report

Dr. Diner reported on the following matters:

- Heidi Szymanski will be leaving to be Director of Budget and Resource Studies in New Brunswick. Aida Torres of the Business School will replace her as Assistant Provost for Budget.
- Marty Ryan has been promoted to Associate Vice Provost for Facilities
- Newark Faculty Awards: Accounting and Information Systems Professor Glenn Shafer has won the 2004 Daniel Gorenstein Award in recognition of research and service to the university. Glenn will receive the award and present a lecture on April 21, 2004 in the Rutgers' Civic Square Building. Peter Loeb (Economics) won the Warren I. Susman Award for Excellence in Teaching. Henry Martin (VPA) won the Rutgers Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research and Judith Weis (Biological Sciences) won the Rutgers College Class of 1962 Presidential Public Service Award.
- The 2005 Human Dignity Award was given to the Institute on Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern Experience (Clement Price, Director and Charles Russell, Assoc. Director) and to Marc Holzer, Chair of the Graduate Department of Public Administration.
- Post-restructuring: Dr. Diner is actively involved in discussions with UMDNJ and NJIT, and will be meeting with NJIT Provost Altenkirk and incoming UMDNJ Acting President, John Petillo. Plans are being discussed for an initiative for a Neurological Institute comparable to the New Brunswick Stem Cell Institute.
- A Statement of Goals for Rutgers-Newark, is being distributed soon and will be on the campus website. Comments may be made through the website.
- Gene Vincenti reported on the progress on mixed-use graduate housing, discussions on 15 Washington Street, and possible collaboration on parking with a private developer.
- Dr. Diner commented that deans and department chairs should not solicit external letters for tenure and promotion packets from people too closely associated with the candidates.

II. Chair's Report

Diana Sclar discussed the following:

- Election schedule: Elections for Executive Cabinet will be conducted before the end of the semester, by the May NFC meeting.
- An NFC listserv will be set up to continue discussion on the proposed Newark undergraduate exam policy.
- Dana Library is holding a symposium on May 6 (handout distributed) entitled, "Information Literacy and Student Learning at Rutgers: Standards,

Competencies, and the Search for Strategies. Meetings to discuss library strategic planning and communications are scheduled for April.

III. Student Services Retreat Bil Leipold reported on the Student Services Retreat held for the Newark Campus, which attracted 107 student participants and 35 administrators. Similar retreats were held in New Brunswick and Camden. The New Brunswick retreat had 25 students. Bil distributed a handout summarizing the retreat goals, themes and outcomes. The students addressed four questions about student services and academic issues. Comments included concerns about parking and security, faculty and administrative accessibility, and improved building/campus conditions. One of the outcomes was development of a “Quick Fix List” of items which may be improved within a few months of the retreat. A website has been set up for continuing dialog.

IV. Newark Campus Undergraduate Exam Policy

Various comments and suggestions were made to the draft of the campus policy, based on an existing New Brunswick policy. Some comments were:

- The University regularly sets schedules, so it cannot be argued that this is a breach of academic freedom.
- Final exams need to be scheduled after the regular class schedule, with an uninterrupted two-day reading period.
- How does this affect take-home exams?
- The text is ambiguous and should specify that final exams are ‘cumulative’, rather than distinguish them by length of time.
- Faculty should have the right to give exams on end-of-semester material in the 13th and 14th weeks, but be available until the end of the semester for those students who need further help.

It was decided to continue discussion of this topic online. Janice Friedland will investigate creating a NFC listserv for this purpose.

V. All Funds Budgeting Committee Asela Laguna-Diaz reported that a committee organized by Vice President Furmanski composed of administrators, deans, chairs and faculty met for two and a half months to look into establishing processes, guidelines and a calendar, for integrating academic budgeting with academic administration. They researched best practices at other universities and investigated how summer school, grants and student fees might better be integrated. A report was submitted, but no response has yet been received from Dr. Furmanski’s office.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Newark Faculty Council meeting is on Monday, May 10, 2004, 11:30 a.m. in the Provost Office Conference Room, CLJ, 5th floor.