

Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, September 24, 2007
CLJ - Provost Conference Room – 11:30 a.m.
Minutes

In attendance: V. Atluri, F. Bartkowski, L. Eller, G. Farney, S. Feinberg, S. Hall, J. Hyman, R. Jones, A. Languna-Diaz, M. Long, M. Shiffrar, R. Snyder, R. Stieglitz, M. Vasarhelyi, B. Veysey, J. Xia; S. Diner, G. Massenberg, G. Roth, M. Ryan, L. Schneemeyer, R. Smith, J. Friedland

I. Welcome – Chair, Fran Bartkowski, welcomed the NFC members.

II. Provost's Report – Provost Diner reported on the following matters:

- **Facilities:** – The design for **1 Washington Park** is almost finished and the project will go to bid shortly. Construction is projected to start in January. Opposition from some historic preservationists was addressed by a compromise to move the proposed double tickertape to the interior of the building. Negotiations are underway with a developer for **15 Washington St.**, which may now include a small hotel. Two variations of a **bookstore proposal** include a megastore on Broad Street to serve all of Newark's higher education institutions, which will be closest to RU-N (in the Wiss Building), and a fallback proposal to move the current bookstore from Bradley Hall to Halsey St., adjacent to Deck. II. Also underway is a **space planning project** to utilize the space to be vacated by the business school when it moves to 1 Washington Park. Plans for parking behind 15 Washington St. have been tabled for the moment. However, there are tentative plans to acquire another parking garage in the campus vicinity.
- **Commencement:** - The campus is negotiating with NJPAC for the Arts & Sciences and the Business School commencements. They will be held on the Tuesday of commencement week, rain or shine. Last year many guests were turned away when ceremonies moved into the Golden Dome gym due to rain.
- **Diversity Initiatives:** - A high-level committee was appointed by the president to make recommendations as part of a university initiative to advance diversity. Each campus will have an office devoted to this task. Co-directors of the campus' Office on Diversity and Cultural Enrichment are Assistant Provost Gerald Massenburg and Vice Provost Lynn Schneemeyer. Provost Diner appointed a Newark advisory committee from faculty, students and staff already on the Newark campus. Asela Laguna-Diaz will be Special Advisor to the provost and will chair the committee.
- **Deregistration of Students:** – Stan Hall noted that students who are deregistered for nonpayment of term bills do not show up for lab classes since they are not on the roster. They need to be reminded that coming in to set up a payment plan is all that is required for them to be reinstated.

III. Discussion on diversity issues was highlighted by the following points:

- Resources for the new office will come from campus reserves.
- The separate campus committees will meet periodically to share information.
- There may be grant opportunities available for this type of initiative.
- The committee might identify faculty who could recruit high school students.

- To explore how to maintain and cultivate diversity in an online environment.
- Alec Gates in the Earth and Environmental Sciences Dept. is submitting a grant to the NSF to work with the public high schools to use geology teaching to interest students in science. It is part of a large multi-group proposal.
- Bonnie Veysey noted that the School of Criminal Justice requires graduate students to take an overview course on diversity.
- To explore how to increase the diversity of the faculty;
- To determine how to engage students and faculty in a real conversation on diversity
- Lynn Schneemeyer noted that she and Gerald Massenbourg would like the new office to tackle real issues and challenges, to include issues of religion, gender, sexual orientation, income and social class.
- Lucille Eller reported on her Nursing course, Human Diversity and Social Issues in the Community. An online survey as part of the course is very effective.
- We should consider faculty workshops on how to use diversity in the classroom.
- A suggestion was made to explore the Newark rebellions and to distinguish “riot vs. rebellion.”
- The Graduate School runs sessions on ethics.

IV. Chair’s Report – Fran Bartkowski noted that the NFC members need to elect an Executive Cabinet. Janice Friedland will send out a request for nominations this week. Discussion followed on President McCormick’s welcome breakfast and the fact that New Brunswick appears to be making offers to recruit Newark faculty.

IV. New Business –

- The College of Nursing would like to propose that the NFC explore the issue of faculty gender equity – the differences in lines allocated and pay scales for men and women. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm. The next NFC meeting is on:

****WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2:30-4:00 PM****
(NOTE THIS IS NOT THE USUAL DAY or TIME).