

Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, March 10, 2008
CLJ – Room 572 – 10:30 am
Minutes

In attendance: V. Atluri, F. Bartkowski, G. Farney, M. Feighn, A. Laguna, W. Ren, B. Veysey, M. Vasarhelyi, L. Zaborszky; S. Diner, G. Massenberg, C. Martancik, M. Ryan, L. Schneemeyer, G. Vincenti, J. Friedland.

I. Provost's Report: Provost Steven Diner reported on the following items:

- **Budget:** The size of this year's budget reductions is about half of those imposed two years ago, but still rather substantial. Janine LaRue, the university's new VP for Public Affairs, will be representing the university's interests in Trenton and her experience in state government will be helpful. New Jersey is the only state in the country to have an absolute decrease in higher education funding. Dr. Diner suggested that letters to legislators are more effective when hand-written rather than sent by email. The provost will be forming an advisory committee to develop strategies to deal with the cuts. It will meet once or twice and will include faculty, staff and students. He asked Fran Bartkowski to designate 3-4 NFC members to participate on the committee.
- A State Ethics Commission has developed a structure for recording outside earnings and activities to be reported to the State.
- The Newark Arts Council is moving forward with a MOU to locate in RU-N's Deck II on Halsey Street. In exchange for the space, they will agree to maintain the window displays in the Halsey store fronts and use the office space for arts education and activities. A Rutgers-Newark Arts Advisory Committee would collaborate with the Arts Council.
- **Campus Searches:** Two finalists are being considered for Dana Library Director. A fifth candidate will be visiting this week for the Director of the Division of Global Affairs position. The College of Nursing dean search is underway. The CoN Dean search committee has met with executive search firm representatives who are beginning to recruit candidates. It is hoped a new dean will be in place for the next academic year, but since the search is late to start, an interim dean may need to be appointed.
- **RU-N 100th Anniversary:** Newark Mayor Cory Booker will be invited to be the keynote speaker as Colin Powell was not able to do so. Pledges have been made in amounts of \$10-50,000.

II. Chair's Report: Fran Bartkowski reported on the following items:

- **Middle States reaccreditation meeting:** The NFC members met with two members of the visiting assessment team earlier in the morning. One of the topics discussed was the role of the NFC - to advise the campus administration and also to inform the Newark faculty. Other topics discussed included the budget situation, assessment issues, undergraduate education revisions, promotion and tenure process, how faculty demographics affect assessment, and the relationship between Newark and New Brunswick. Overall, the members thought it was a constructive meeting. Provost Diner noted that 20 years ago Rutgers-Newark was

separately accredited. Ten years after that review, President Francis Lawrence insisted Rutgers University be accredited as a single unit, although a dedicated team did visit the Newark campus. This time, only two members of the main team will be spending about four hours on campus, although Newark representatives will be included in the general university meetings in New Brunswick. Provost Diner met separately with the team members and clarified the relationship between the urban mission and research.

III. Shots Fired Video – RU-N Police Chief, Michael Lattimore ran the video “Shots Fired,” which was also shown at the recent Administrative Forum meeting, to determine whether it would be suitable to distribute/show to the full faculty. After viewing the very intense film, several members commented that a supplemental presentation might be made to demonstrate an appropriate response in a classroom environment, since this film was geared to an office setting. A handout that was distributed was deemed to be helpful. Training should include graduate teaching assistants. The video might be paired with a presentation by Pamela Heard in the counseling office on how faculty can respond and prevent dangerous situations.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00. The next Newark Faculty Council meeting is scheduled for **Monday, April 7, 2008 in the Provost Conference Room, CLJ 5th Floor at 11:30 am.**