

Newark Faculty Council
Meeting of Monday, March 11, 2013 – 11:30 am
Chancellor's Conference Room 590
Center for Law & Justice

Minutes

In attendance: *Elected Members Paul Axel-Lute, John Kettle, Phylis Peterman, Piotr Piotrowiak, Alexander Sannella, Genese Sodikoff, Miklos Vasarhelyi; Executive Director, Rutgers Council of AAUP Chapters Patrick Nowlan ; Interim Chancellor Philip Yeagle; Executive Associate, Chancellor's Office, Janice Friedland;*

I. Chair's Report:

Miklos Vasarhelyi noted that many members were attending an overlapping AAUP meeting. He suggested the NFC revisit the matter of nomenclature for the two Newark campuses, commenting that Rutgers-Newark-West and Rutgers-Newark-East did not seem appropriate. Since Janet Larson was not present, discussion of Grading Conventions will also be postponed.

II. Chancellor's Report: Chancellor Yeagle reported on the following topics:

- **Broadcast Email on Freedom of Speech:** An event organized on campus by a controversial independent group prompted an email from the Chancellor supporting the campus policy on freedom of speech. The campus is prepared for issues that may arise from this event.
- **A meeting was held recently with Newark Mayor Cory Booker,** including leading Newark security people and R-N Police Chief Mike Lattimore, to enhance a line of open communication between the city and the campus and to discuss means of collaboration following a reduction in the city's police force. This is also part of an ongoing dialog with NJIT and UMDNJ security.
- **Strategic Planning:** A day-long retreat in New Brunswick was held last Wednesday, March 6th. A document outlining the event essentially did not reference Rutgers-Newark, leading to concern about how the planning process could limit the campus's future. A copy will be distributed to NFC members. Rutgers-New Brunswick appears to be claiming ownership for all research and scholarly accomplishments, including those of Newark and Camden campuses, and it is also claiming sole AAU status. Rutgers-Newark is described as a campus with a 'special mission.'

Dr. Yeagle noted that since it represents the Newark campus, the NFC may wish to issue a statement in response to the strategic planning document.

NFC members commented that the State should figure more prominently in the strategic planning discussion. At the retreat, however, President Barchi stated he does not see any future increase in State support, and projects that Rutgers will have to continually find new and additional funding sources. Signage in New Brunswick no longer refers to Rutgers as the "State University of New Jersey". It was suggested that the new Newark Board of Advisors and political contacts in Northern New Jersey be tapped for their influence.

Dr. Yeagle shared that Dr. Barchi had asked him to describe the defining characteristics of the Newark Campus. He noted that the whole organization chart for the university is being revised and many Newark administrative functions will report to New Brunswick.

- Discussion followed on state funding for new equipment for higher education that was slated for Rutgers University. Rutgers Central Administration presented their plan for use of the funds to the BoG, without ever notifying our campus. When this was brought to the Board's attention, the BoG responded and we were given (only) four days to prepare proposals which were in fact submitted with BoG approval.
- Patrick Nowlan, Executive Director of the Rutgers Council of AAUP Chapters, noted that although the merger legislation called for a separate line item for Rutgers-Newark in the State budget, the University has instead submitted an aggregate number for the whole university. The legislation also calls for an Advisory Board with a defined membership, to be established by July 1, 2013. The NFC needs to nominate a member. It was suggested Steven Goldstein, the new Vice Chancellor for External Relations, be invited to the next NFC meeting. He is very familiar with the legislation and will be able to describe the progress he's made in talking with political leaders.

III. Newark Campus Advisory Board and Impact of Restructuring Legislation:

Patrick Nowlan described the AAUP's role in reshaping the language of the restructuring legislation. The AAUP proposed the creation of a Rutgers-Newark Advisory Board and succeeded in adding representation for the union and the faculty council on all campuses. Although the advisory board is supposed to be operational after July 1st, there is yet no allocation for the Newark campus in the governor's budget, leaving it up to legislature to produce a budget bill. The NFC will conduct an election for its designated member of the advisory board in a few weeks. Wording in the restructuring legislation about an Office of Community Affairs was also not clear. Dr. Yeagle asked Mr. Nowlan to please keep the campus updated on these issues.

IV. Bylaws Amendments:

Since there were too few members present to form a quorum, a vote on the new revisions will be conducted by email.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm. The next meeting of the Newark Faculty Council is scheduled for Monday, April 15, 2013 at 11:30 am in the Chancellor's Large Conference Room.