Academic Council
Minutes of Meeting
Canisius 200
September 8, 2008


Administrative members present: AVP, O. Grossman, VP, E. Wilson, Deans, E. Hadjimichael, N. Solomon

Student representative: FUSA D. Lamendola

Regrets: Deans, J. Novotny, S. Franzosa

Guests: J. Lange (item 4,a), I Mulvey (item 7, d), VP, W. Weitzer (item 7,d) B. Walker (item 7, c)

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm. Prof. DeWitt began by reminding the Council of an existing policy that a student representative be invited to attend Council meetings and on the recommendation of the FUSA president, suggested we invite D. Lamendola to attend Academic Council meetings. The Council concurred.

0. Election of Chair and Executive Secretary

Prof. Preli was nominated from the floor. Prof. Preli accepted the nomination.

MOTION: [Yarrington/Greenberg] that Prof. Preli serve as Chair.
MOTION PASSED: unanimous in favor 12-0-0.

Prof. Bowen was nominated from the floor. Prof. Bowen accepted the nomination.

MOTION: [Greenberg/Rakowitz] that Prof. Bowne serve as Executive Secretary
MOTION PASSED unanimous in favor 12-0-0

1. Presidential courtesy
2. Report from the Secretary of the General Faculty

a. 2008-2209 Academic Council roster and meeting dates
Prof. DeWitt reminded the members of the Council that a revised list of
dates for Council meetings was sent via e-mail. Correction: the December
meeting will be on Monday 12/01/08.

b. Guidelines for taking AC minutes
Prof. DeWitt advised the members to follow the attached guidelines for
recording minutes.

3. Report from the Executive Secretary

Prof. Bowen began the discussion of previous minutes.

a. Approval of Minutes
   i. Draft minutes of AC meeting on 4/28/08
      Prof. Rakowitz noted that spelling or her name is incorrect
      Prof. Nantz noted that (7.a paragraph 12 line 2 should read 15 credits)
      
      MOTION: [Yarrington/Robert] to approve the minutes of 4/28/08 as
corrected.
      MOTION: 6 approve - 6 abstention
   
   ii. Draft minutes AC meeting on 6/9/08
      
      MOTION: [Nantz/Garvey] to approve the minutes of 6/9/08.
      MOTION: 6 approve – 6 abstention

   iii. Draft minutes of AC meeting on 6/23/08.
      
      MOTION: [Robert/Nantz] to approve the minutes of 6/23/08.
      MOTION: 7 approve – 5 abstention

b. Correspondence
   i. Memo to Todd Pellazza re: Jail and Bail Fundraiser
      Prof. DeWitt noted that the memo was attached as point of information for
      the Council.

   ii. Letter from Paul Huston, Chair of BOT, re: faculty representation
       on Board of Trustee committees.
       Prof. DeWitt noted that this would be held for a future meeting.
c. Oral Reports

None

4. Council Committee Reports

a. Faculty representatives on University parking study (pending item G)
Prof. Lange (guest) reported for the committee. Prof. Lange distributed to
the members a copy of Phase I and Phase II of the proposal.

Prof. Lange reported that the committee had several meetings in which
they discussed student and faculty concerns about the parking situation.
Topics discussed were, annual fee, parking spaces/areas, increased need
for evening and day parking for part time and graduate students, problems
with the shuttle, lack of areas to park bicycles.

Prof. Lange noted that there is a movement to have a primarily pedestrian
campus and the possibility of building a parking garage. She noted
that the committee was informed that it is very costly to increase the
number of parking spaces. Her report was to inform the Council of the
progress of the committee’s work. She stated that no action has been taken
to date.

Prof. Nantz asked about the annual parking fee for part time faculty. Prof.
Lange responded that all faculty will have to pay the annual fee and it
most likely will be increased to $100/year. She also added that sophomore
students, in the future, may not be able to park vehicles on campus. Only
sophomore students with special circumstance may be able to park a
vehicle on campus.

Prof. Yarrington supported the idea of increasing spaces for parking
bicycles.

Prof. Massey noted that there may be additional security issues with a
parking garage.

Prof. Preli asked how the members of the Council can access more
information about the parking issue. Council members can contact Todd
Palazza (Public Safety Office) who has all of the minutes of the meetings.

b. Subcommittee on sunsetting of courses (pending item H)
Prof. Rakowitz reported that the committee will have their first meeting
the week of 9/15/08.
5. Petitions for immediate hearing
   None

6. Old Business
      (ongoing item 1)
      Prof. DeWitt introduced this as an ongoing issue.

      Prof. Rakowitz questioned why we are discussing the issue after the fact.

      VP Grossman responded that Council was consulted and agreed that a
time frame before or after was not crucial.

      Prof. Massey noted that she is on the Athletic Committee and that the
Athletic Committee is addressing this and a final report from the
committee may prove to have this removed from Council as an ongoing
issue.

At this point in the meeting, Prof. DeWitt asked that the agenda be adjusted to
accommodate Patricia Herzog, Ph.D, of Sage Search partners re: AVP search. Dr. Herzog
has a commitment and must leave the Council meeting at 4:30pm. The Council concurred
and the agenda item 7. New Business d. was discussed at this point of the meeting.

AVP Grossman recused himself from the meeting

7. New Business
   d. Discussion with Patricia Herzog, Ph.D., of Sage Search Partners re:
      AVP Search
      Dr. Herzog introduced herself and shared a short biography with the
      Council
      SAGE Search Partners
      19 Hawthorne Avenue
      Newtown, MA 02466
      (617) 232-3113
      phergog@sagesearch.com
      www.sagesearch.com

      Dr. Herzog prefaced the discussion stating that her role is to
      partner with Fairfield University faculty and administration
      in a collaborative manner in search of a new Academic Vice President.

      She will inform and advise providing information about the candidates. She
      stressed that she has no decision making capacity. The value of having a search
consultant is that she will be proactive and has the ability to reach out to a wide scope of qualified candidates.

VP Wilson asked the Council if it wanted administration to remain for the discussion.

Council made no objection to having administration remain at the meeting.

Dr. Herzog continued the discussion by posing the following questions:

1. What should the position of AVP be?
2. What can the position be?
3. What is it that we as a faculty expect from an AVP?

Prof. Yarrington remarked that she hoped that the AVP would focus primarily on academics and support academics. She also mentioned that she would like to have support for the faculty for their research endeavors.

Prof. Massey asked how competitive is the market for an AVP?

R. Herzog responded that it is a very competitive market and this one major reason that she wants input from faculty and administration. She commented that currently there are a quite a number of interim Academic Vice Presidents across the US.

Prof. Massey commented that she would like to have an AVP that wants Fairfield University specifically and also wants to live in the north east.

Dean Hadjimichael asked if she had a job description for the AVP position and Dr Herzog said that the search committee is in the process of developing it.

Prof. Bowen mentioned that she would like to have the AVP interact with the faculty routinely and perhaps informally not just when conflict arises or a problem needs to be solved.

Prof. Yarrington stated that it would desirable for the interactions to go beyond the orientation phase. She also hoped that the AVP would have a commitment to the faculty and the university and maintain open communication.

Prof. Nantz stated that she would like to see the Boyer model be considered which speaks to a recognizing a wider range of scholarship. This model speaks to a wider approach relative to research, teaching and service and how these elements contribute to professional life.
Dean Crabtree suggested Dr. Herzog emphasize what is attractive about Fairfield University.

Dr. Herzog asked: What is attractive about Fairfield University?

Prof. Bowen responded saying that it is the faculty. Fairfield is able to recruit and retain excellent faculty. Faculty at Fairfield are engaged and committed.

Prof. Nantz commented that we have excellent resources for faculty such as junior sabbaticals, and good benefits.

Time warranted the end of the discussion and Dr. Herzog invited members of the Council to contact her with any more information or questions regarding the search for AVP.

a. Elect faculty representatives for Honorary Degree Committee
Prof De Witt asked for members to submit their name to Prof. Bowen the Executive Secretary if they want to volunteer to serve on the Honorary Degree Committee. Once volunteers submit their name, Prof. Bowen will distribute the names via e-mail for the members to vote.

b. Blue Ribbon Commission on Governance
Prof. Dewitt suggested that motion be made to form a subcommittee to address this issue.

**MOTION:** [Nantz/Robert] to form a subcommittee of five members of the Academic Council to consider the recommendations in the Blue Ribbon Commission report that are directed to the faculty, including (but not necessarily limited to) the items specifically noted by President von Arx in his memo of 6/12/08 (under the heading “General Faculty” and “Academic Council”). Because some of the issues involved are broad issues that involve standards of our profession, the subcommittee should solicit advice and input from the national AAUP. The subcommittee should present a progress report at each AC meeting.

**MOTION PASSED:** unanimously 15-0-0
Prof. DeWitt called for volunteers. The following members volunteered to serve:

Prof. Nantz, Prof. Thiel, Prof. Rakowitz, Prof. Yarrington, Dean Crabtree

Prof. Greenberg questioned whether it is appropriate for a Dean to serve. Prof Nantz noted that her motion was open to all members of the Council. Members anonymously submitted their vote for the members for the committee.

Ballots were collected by Prof. Bowen Executive Secretary. Ballots will be counted and the results will be distributed to all members via e-mail.
c. Incident involving identity theft of faculty and related computer safety issues.

Prof. DeWitt introduced Prof Walker who was one of the faculty affected by the breach into Banner. A student signed onto Banner as a faculty member and changed five grades.

Council questioned:
   How the situation was handled.
   The degree of punishment

MOTION: [Rakowitz/Strauss] That the Academic Council ask the Executive Committee to arrange for a three person subcommittee to look into and report on the handling of this instance of academic honesty, and make suggestions for handling of similar cases in the future.

MOTION PASSED: unanimous 15-0-0

Members were asked to submit their name to Chairperson Prof. Preli

MOTION: [Greenberg/Bowen] To adjourn
MOTION PASSED: unanimous 15-0-0

At 5:00pm the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole A. Pomarico