

Minutes from the General Faculty Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

12:00 noon – 1:30 pm

Newcomb Hall Room 481

Representatives Present – Otilie Austin, Jean Collier, Robin Kuzen, Terry Lockard, Pam MacIntyre, Jennie Moody, Ricky Patterson, Michael Smith,

Representatives Absent – Dawn Anderson (Chair), Phil Balestrieri, Beth Blanton-Kent, David Glover, Kelly Jordan, Aaron Laushway, Barbara Millar, Peter Norton, Marshall Pattie, Richard Tanson, Steve Warner, Ellen Ramsey, Colleen Smith

Guests – Kate O’Varanese, Karen Shriver, Ellie Wilson, Lynda White (for Beth Blanton-Kent)

Preliminaries

1. 12:00 **Gathering of Members**

2. 12:10 **Call to Order**

Ricky Patterson, Chair-elect welcomed the members and guests.

Business

3. 12:10 **Diversity Council, January Meeting (Ricky Patterson)**

At the January meeting of the Diversity Council, two areas needing greater diversity were discussed: vendors/suppliers and faculty. Virginia ranked last in the use of minority-owned businesses. The SWAM (Small Woman and Minority) program was discussed. Also discussed was the need for more diversity within the faculty. There seem to be two major problems: 1) The number of PhD candidates in the underrepresented areas such as the sciences, and 2) How do you keep them in academia (and at UVa). Other University’s are aggressively pursuing minorities. The University has attractive packages, but not as good as other schools. At the Diversity Council meeting, they highlighted examples of unsuccessful hires because we couldn’t compete with the counter offers.

4. 12:20 **Other Business**

- Lynda White read an e-mail she received from a constituent in the library. A decision was made to discontinue putting the listing of faculty salaries in the library. It is unknown why the decision was made. Jennie Moody asked whether the GFC ever used the salary data in the library. The answer was no – anytime we have needed salary data for a study, it has been provided to the GFC through the administration. Anyone can request salary data under the Freedom of Information Act. Thus the Council felt this was not an issue for us to address. .

Committees

5. 12:30 **Committee Reports**

- Policy (Philip Balestrieri) - Phil was unable to attend the meeting. Ellie Wilson stated her belief that we must put greater effort into galvanizing our constituents by reaching out and convening school level meetings. She reported that these efforts were underway in the School of Continuing and Professional Studies, the Education School and Engineering. However not much progress has been made in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Communications (Terry Lockard) –The Communications Committee is planning a second event on March 13, 2009 featuring Karin Bonding from the Commerce School. She will discuss financial/retirement planning during these difficult economic times. It will be a lunch event and will be held in the Commerce School. If you have specific questions you’d like Karin Bonding to answer, please send those to Terry Lockard Lockard@virginia.edu
- Data Management (Ricky Patterson) – Ricky was working on updating our membership lists. He received an updated list from George Stovall. Ricky was still analyzing the data as there was an increase of nearly 300 people on the “gen-fac” mailing list since last year. He noted that these 300 people were present in last year’s divisional mailing

Isits (gf-health, gf-professional, etc.) just not in the gen-fac list. He is trying to determine why there was such a large increase.

- Bylaws (Jean Collier) – Jean presented a draft of proposed changes to the bylaws. The changes were to reflect new policies and goals of the GFC. She also reviewed the faculty Senate by-laws for comparison. Proposed changes included using the term non-tenure track faculty rather than general faculty. She also updated web links in the document and made sure terms were used consistently. The descriptions of the Communications Committee and Policy Chair positions were updated. The proposed changes will be sent to the Council and will be finalized at the March meeting.
- Elections (Robin Kuzen) – Robin encouraged Council members to be thinking of new members for the following eight slots available in the March, 2009, GFC elections:
 - Administration – 2
 - Arts & Sciences – 1
 - At-large – 3
 - Professional Schools – 1
 - Student Affairs – 1

Current members whose terms are ending in 2009 but are eligible for re-election are Richard Tanson (Administration), Jennie Moody (Arts & Sciences), Dawn Anderson (At-large), Peter Norton (At-large), Barbara Millar (Professional Schools), Aaron Laushway (Student Affairs). If your term is expiring and you're eligible for re-election, please let Robin know if you are willing to run again.

- Senate Council Joint Committee – No report from this Committee.

10. 1:30 **Adjournment**

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 11, 2009, Byrd/Morris Room of the Special Collections Library.