

Minutes from the General Faculty Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

12:00 noon – 1:30 pm

Byrd/Morris Room of the Special Collections Library

Representatives Present – Dawn Anderson (Chair), Otilie Austin, Phil Balestrieri, Jean Collier, Kelly Jordan, Robin Kuzen, Aaron Laushway, Terry Lockard, Pam MacIntyre, Barbara Millar, Peter Norton, Ricky Patterson, Ellen Ramsey, Michael Smith

Representatives Absent – Beth Blanton-Kent, David Glover, Jennie Moody, Marshall Pattie, Richard Tanson, Steve Warner, Colleen Smith

Guests – Kelly Brinier, Craig Decker, Karen Shriver, Philippe Sommer, Ellie Wilson

Preliminaries

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

2. 12:05 **Call to Order**

Dawn Anderson, Chair, welcomed the members and guests.

Business

3. 12:05 **Diversity Council, February Meeting (Ricky Patterson)**

At the February meeting of the Diversity Council, the discussion centered on increasing diversity in the study abroad program and J-term. The University is looking for faculty proposals for courses integral to the curriculum and with transferable credit. The goal is to increase opportunities to participate and participation in these two areas.

4. 12:10 **Other Business**

- Thanks to the General Faculty Council members whose terms expire this year: Jean Collier, Robin Kuzen, Jeanne Moody, Richard Tanson and Dawn Anderson!

Committees

5. 12:20 **Committee Reports**

- 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. The major changes are:
 - Senior Professional Research faculty were added as appropriate
 - The term “non-tenure-track faculty ” replaced “general faculty” throughout the document.
 - Membership was changed to a minimum of 18 and a maximum of 21.
 - The areas of representation were defined.
 - The first meeting of the year was clarified as the April meeting.
 - Language was added: The Chair shall designate a Council member to monitor and report on Council financial transaction.
 - The Communications Chair will appoint the webmaster.
 - Clarification that data management includes updates to the e-mail list and when updates are to be performed.

The Council discussed the future of the GFC including what if any the relationship should exist between the GFC and University staff. Concern was expressed that no representation exists for management and professional University Staff as employee councils represent staff not management.

A motion to approve the policy changes was made and seconded. The changes were passed unanimously.

- Communications (Terry Lockard) –The Communications Committee’s second professional development event is 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. We hope to see you all there.

- Policy (Philip Balestrieri) – There was no meeting and thus no report.
- Data Management (Ricky Patterson) – The membership was updated prior to the elections.
- Elections (Robin Kuzen) – Elections are in process. Robin thanked Ellen and Pam for all their assistance.
- Senate Council Joint Committee – The report from this Committee is pending.

6. 1:150 **Adjournment**

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2009, Newcomb Hall Room 481