

Minutes of the General Faculty Meeting held on March 14, 2006

Present: Jean Collier, chair, Lynda White (representing Lotta Lofgren), Derry Wade, John Wilson, Pam MacIntyre, Gary Davis, Mark Ross, Bill Keene, Nancy Gansneder, James Groves, Ellie Wilson, Virginia Carter, Kay Buchanan

Guests: Eric Henkel, Doug Tammen (both IM Rec Sports), and Chris Elliott (Coordinator for Alderman Road dorms)

Invited Guest: William Harvey, Vice President and Chief Officer for Diversity and Equity

1. The meeting began with an informal discussion of the recently approved Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Policy (formerly the Policy on General Faculty) that will be posted March 15, 2006.
2. We then welcomed Vice President Harvey to the meeting.
3. Harvey shared with the Council his vision of the opportunity he has to offer direction for the University, locating issues here against the background of the world of higher education, and rationale for enhancing diversity and equity at the University in the context of globalization. He has held (or will hold) meetings with personnel in all units of the University as he begins to formulate his plans for the future. He views his role as working with senior administrators as well as developing policies based on grass-roots concerns of the University community.
4. Harvey announced plans for a University-wide symposium to be held on November 2-4, 2006. The purpose of this symposium, tentatively called "In Katrina's Wake: Implications of Race and Diversity," is to encourage University-wide dialogue on this topic. In the future, Harvey intends that each School within the University will take on the responsibility for organizing similar inclusive symposiums focusing on the issues of race and society on an annual basis.
5. In closing, the Council held a discussion about the pending implementation of the Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Policy (formerly the General Faculty Policy) document as approved by the Provost's Office and the University Policy Review Committee. The new policy was scheduled to be posted on 16 March 2006. Concerns were discussed about 1) the exclusion of GFC representatives in the final review process and 2) specific provisions of the new policy. Bill Keene moved that the council chair send a message to Vice Provost Gene Block before the end of the day stating the following: 1) The current version of the draft policy on non-track faculty contained internal inconsistencies and also included some provisions that concerned the GFC and 2) Council requests that

posting of the new policy be delayed temporarily so that the inconsistencies can be corrected and our concerns considered prior to implementation. Phil Gates seconded the motion and it was passed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 11, noon to 1:30, in Newcomb Hall 481.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellie Wilson