

### **Minutes of the General Faculty Council meeting held on May 11, 2004**

Present were: Robin Kuzen, chair, Lotta Lofgren, outgoing chair, Derry Wade, Lynda White, Jean Collier, Nancy Gansneder, Carol Hunter, Elaine Attridge, Phil Gates, Greg Strickland, Prue Thorner, and Ed Murphy representing John Wilson. Mair deVoursney and Lynda White attended as guests.

Absent were: Robbie Greenlee, Ellie Wilson, Bill Keene, Jennifer Bauerle, Camilla Curnow, and Chris Milner.

1. The minutes of the April meeting were approved as written. Prue Thorner was elected to serve as secretary and was approved for this position.
2. Robin Kuzen, in her role as incoming chair, thanked Lotta for her past year of service as chair of the Council. She commented on her effective leadership and expressed the appreciation of the entire membership for her efforts on our behalf.
3. Lotta responded that we may need to be more activist in our dealings with the University administration in the coming year. She also asked that all committee chairs submit their year-end reports to her before the end of May.
4. Jean Collier reported on the recent Faculty Forum sponsored by the GFC. She said that it was unfortunate that a fire occurred in the Colonnade Hotel immediately prior to the starting time for the Forum. Jann Balmer was extremely efficient in obtaining an alternative location for the Forum, but Jean said that quite a number of participants did not come on to Newcomb Hall although notices were posted about the change of venue. There were no more than 25 attendees. Collette Sheehy and Bob Sweeney gave very interesting and well-prepared presentations, but it was disappointing that attendance was so sparse. A resolution expressing appreciation to Jann Balmer for all her work on the Forum was passed unanimously.
5. Robin said that another Health Sciences representative must be nominated to replace George Hashisaki who can no longer attend meetings due to a conflict with his Operating Room schedule. Elaine and Greg were asked to solicit nominations in time for an election within the next 60 days as required by the Bylaws. Derry Wade will handle the election for this vacancy.
6. Nominations for chair-elect will be considered at our June 8 meeting.
7. Committee assignments:
  - John Wilson will be asked to serve as the GFC representative to the Faculty Senate Research Committee.
  - Phil Gates will serve as our representative on the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs subcommittee.
  - The chair elect will take responsibility for meeting with the Pan University Coordinating Council.
  - Bill Keene, Robin Kuzen, Derry Wade and Nancy Gansneder will also attend the next meeting of the GFC-Faculty Senate joint meeting in September.
  - Carol Hunter will be our liaison to the University Benefits Committee.

- Jean Collier will chair the Communications committee. Other members are: Prue Thorner, Nancy Gansneder, Robbie Greenlee, Chris Milner, Derry Wade and Carol Hunter.
- Derry Wade will continue to chair the Elections Committee. Jean Collier and Elaine Attridge will also serve on the committee.
- Bill Keene will continue to chair the Policy Committee with support from members Lotta Lofgren, Lynda White, Camilla Curnow and John Wilson.
- Jennifer Bauerle will chair the Data Management Committee, with members Chris Milner, Elaine Attridge and Lynda White.
- Phil Gates will chair the By-Laws Committee, with members Jennifer Bauerle and Greg Strickland.

8. The major issues which we will address in the upcoming year are:
  - The need for equity in salary percentage increases for all classes of faculty, including teaching and research, administrative and professional faculty on a par with percentage increases awarded to academic faculty. We will lobby SCHEV and the Provost's office as appropriate. The Faculty Senate of Virginia should also be informed of our lobbying activities in this regard.
  - A report on the GFC's activities over the past ten years is to be prepared by Lotta, with assistance from Prue, for distribution prior to the September meeting.
  - Access to professional development funding for all general faculty.
  - Continuation of health benefits for research faculty whose external support is temporarily discontinued, until such time as it can be re-established; temporary disability leave for research faculty should also be funded through a central fund from the Provost's office.
  - Publication of the long-awaited Policy Manual concerning General Faculty.
9. A resolution asking the University administration for salary increase equity was submitted to the Council. A vote was taken and the resolution was approved as written.
10. A resolution requesting that similar faculty development opportunities – particularly in the area of travel funds and support for research, as are currently available to academic faculty. The resolution was submitted and approved as written.
11. Phil Gates submitted a resolution commending the Governor and members of the Virginia legislature on new legislation approving health insurance benefits for salaried part-time employees who work 20 hours or more per week was approved as written. Prue Thorner was asked to send this to the Governor and to the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tem of the Senate, as well as to the sponsoring delegate.
12. Nancy asked the Council to consider the LeadershipPlenty course as a leadership-building activity for all Council members. Information about the curriculum will be forwarded directly to Council members for their consideration.

13. The next meeting of the Council will be held on **June 8 at 12:00pm** in Room 481 Newcomb Hall. There will be no meeting of the Council in August.