

Minutes of the General Faculty Meeting Held on November 9, 2004

Present: Robin Kuzen, chair, Bill Keene, John Wilson, Jennifer Bauerle, Ellie Wilson, Robbie Greenlee, Lynda White (proxy for Lotta Löfgren), Carol Hunter, Jean Collier, Phil Gates (and proxy for Chris Milner), Derry Wade, Prue Thorner. Guests: Ida Lee Wooten, Anne Broccoli. Absent were: Elaine Attridge, Camilla Curnow, Dawn Rigney, Greg Strickland, Nancy Gansneder.

1. Robin introduced Ida Lee Wooten, UVA's Director of Community Relations and current chair of this year's Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign. Ida presented background information about the campaign, including the choice of payroll-deductions as a means of giving to a charity of your choice from a list of more than 1300 charities. State employees gave over \$3 million last year.
2. Robin introduced another guest, Anne Broccoli, now assistant director of Benefits. Carol Hunter spoke about the flexible spending benefits package, which allows employees to set aside pre-tax dollars to be used for dependent care or for uninsured medical expenses. Anne answered questions and also discussed changes to dental coverage next year under which up to \$1000 can be claimed for both dental care and also for orthodontic care (braces). In 2005 we will no longer need to obtain a referral from our primary care physicians to consult a specialist. Carol and Anne also mentioned that the open enrollment period runs until December 3.
3. As part of the chair's report, Robin said that we have \$2,535 in our operating budget.
4. Robin reported that all the GFC resolutions we recently endorsed are on the website at <http://www.virginia.edu/genfac/>. She thanked Jean Collier for posting the resolutions in such an easily accessible way on the website, and asked all members to take a look.
5. Bill reported on the joint meeting of the Faculty Senate and General Faculty Council representatives, which will probably meet twice each semester. The mission statement of the joint committee was approved as follows: "To further education of and advocacy for the faculty of the University of Virginia through active communication and cooperation between the Faculty Senate (representative body for academic faculty) and the General Faculty Council (representative body for non-tenure track academic faculty, administrative and professional general faculty, and senior professional research staff) concerning matters of mutual interest." Robin and Marcia Day Childress, chair of the Faculty Senate, will review the grievance procedures prior to the next meeting of the joint committee.
6. Regarding the University's proposed move to charter status, Marcia Childress has said the Faculty Senate cannot endorse this legislation without more information. There will be an opportunity to ask for more clarification at the closed session for Faculty Senate and GFC members that Leonard Sandridge will address on November 12 at 10:00 am in the Harrison Auditorium of the Small Special Collections Library. There was discussion about the code of ethics that new employees are being asked to sign, and Anne Broccoli offered to forward a copy of it to Robin for her review.
7. Derry asked for input on how to generate more interest in GFC elections. She stated that Elaine Attridge had gathered information from a sample of Health Sciences Center general faculty who said that they were unaware that they are

- members of the general faculty, or that they are not aware of any issues that face us, and finally that they are not convinced the GFC has any power to effect change. After discussion it was agreed that we would consider sending out a postcard as well as e-mail reminders about nominations for the election. We need to do more to generate articles for the Cavalier Daily, the Link and Inside UVA about our recently posted resolutions and other initiatives.
8. Robin circulated a list of questions culled from general faculty to be asked at the November 12 Joint GFC-Faculty Senate meeting with Leonard Sandridge.
 9. Part of our **next meeting at 12:00 pm on December 14** will be devoted to the three working groups to allow us to focus on our course of action on the resolutions.

Respectfully submitted,

Prue Thorner
Secretary