

**Minutes from the General Faculty Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 13, 2006**

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**Present:**

Dawn Anderson, Virginia Carter, Jean Collier, Dahlia French, Phil Gates, James Groves, Bill Keene, Robin Kuzen, Aaron Laushway, Lotta Lofgren, Jennie Moody, Peter Norton, Dawn Rigney, Eleanor Wilson, John Wilson

**Absent:**

Kay Buchanan, Kevin King, Breyette Lorntz, Pam McIntyre, Barbara Millar, Mark Ross

**Visitors:**

Mary Abouzeid, Don Payne (for Kevin King), Lynda White

**1. Call to Order:**

Ellie called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

**2. Welcome to members and visitors:**

Members introduced themselves and Ellie welcomed visitors.

**3. Secretary's Report from November 2006:**

Members from the GFC approved the minutes.

**4. Chair's Report:**

**a. Executive Committee Meeting November 20th**

- Ellie updated the GFC about the Executive Committee meeting. They discussed policy issues and GFC image.

**b. Updates on Diversity Commission**

- Ellie updated the GFC on the Diversity Commission. Bill Harvey and Gertrude Fraser gave a report which is posted on the website. Ellie noted that general faculty should be considered with regard to salary equity.
- Bill Keene noted salary equity differences between general faculty and tenure track faculty.
- Jennie Moody highlighted the information that Ellie sent out on the website about tenure track and non-tenure track faculty.
- Peter Norton noted that AAUP.org has excellent information on general faculty statistics and urged members to review it.
- Bill Keene suggested that GFC send information to Bill Harvey's office in an effort to help his office move towards examining salary equity issues.

**c. Positions to be filled on the Council:/ Positions filled**

- Ellie noted that Mark Ross will be leaving the University. Thus, his position will need to be filled. Ellie noted that he did an outstanding job and he will be missed.

**d. Policy (to be addressed by Policy committee below)**

**e. Meetings re Faculty Senate – Faculty Recruitment, Retention and Welfare Committee, chaired by Jennifer Harvey**

- Ellie attended this meeting and noted some issues that were discussed: compensation, benefits, life insurance, and cost of housing.
- Ellie raised the issue that we need to continue to publicize GFC by sharing what we do as an organization and our role in the University.
- Ellie reported that an electronic survey will be sent to the entire University with a menu of demographics. The survey is being created at this time and will be available in late Winter. Ellie sent around proposed questions for the survey and asked the GFC to review them and send suggestions to Ellie by December 20. Ellie asked for feedback. She noted that GFC has a role to play in the process. Ellie will send out the suggestions she received to the Council for review. Then she will send the collective suggestions to the Faculty Senate.
- Lotta asked Ellie if she was a member of this committee. Ellie said she would report back to the GFC on this matter.

**5. Old Business:**

**a. Status of Budget – Robin Kuzen**

- Current balance is \$2956.00. In July 2007, an additional \$2,500 will be deposited into the GFC account.

**b. Committee Reports**

**1. Policy: Lotta Lofgren**

- Lotta asked the GFC to consider the professional development resolution and how each committee can be involved in this resolution and how to engage with these resolutions in a more constructive way.
- Lotta is hoping that Gertrude Fraser will talk to the policy committee about these professional development issues at a future GFC meeting.
- Lotta followed up to report that a member of the Board of Visitors will not be attending a GFC meeting. Sandy Gilliam suggested that we talk to Collette Sheehy. She has been asked to talk the Council in the Spring.
- Peter Norton reported about grievance issues. He also suggested that a letter be sent to the GF roster to raise GFC visibility.
- Lotta reported that the policy committee will be sending out a monthly newsletter to the GF roster to raise visibility about policy issues.
- Ellie proposed that the GFC clarify its stance around these issues:
  - retention and promotion
  - salary
  - departmental governance
  - benefits
  - professional development
- Peter asked GFC to consider Expectation of Continued Employment – a 1940 statement on AAUP website on tenure and promotion.

## **2. Elections: Robin Kuzen**

- Robin welcomed Dahlia French from the International Studies Office who recently joined the GFC.
- She noted that Mark Ross' position is open.
- Jennie reported back about her discussion with ITC about their possible involvement in GFC and discovered that these folks are classified staff and not general faculty.

## **3. Communications: Jennie Moody reported for Barbara Millar**

- Jennie reported that the committee would possibly distribute electronic survey covering issues such as departmental governance and professional development.
- The Communications committee will check to see if there is University backing to do these broader surveys.
- Professional development workshop – Barbara will update in January – possible topic is managing change – to occur in April or May.

## **4. Bylaws: Phil Gates**

- Phil asked the GFC to review the bylaws and consider proposed changes.

## **5. Data Management: Mark Ross**

- No report.

## **6. Professional Development (included under Communications report)**

## **6. New Business:**

- Ellie welcomed Jennie Moody as the new GFC Chair.
- Ellie noted January meeting will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> in room 168 Newcomb Hall (please note the change of rooms for this meeting).
- Jennie Moody noted that she is pleased to serve as the GFC Chair and proposed that the Executive Committee meet before the Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. She also challenged us to examine the resolutions.
- Lotta asked GFC to think about the Professional Development Resolution on the website and how the GFC will address it.
  - Bill Keene noted that the GFC should address the University level professional development issues. It's a hard thing to tackle because of the distributed nature of the problem – very decentralized.
  - Lotta suggested that we reexamine the resolutions and think about them clearly. How does each committee relate to these resolutions? Consider strategies and what you want and what your committee wants to accomplish with regards to these resolutions. Lotta also suggested that the GFC might dismiss or adopt resolutions.
- Lotta thanked Ellie for her leadership as GFC Chair.

## **7. Meeting Adjourned**

Ellie adjourned meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dawn Anderson, Secretary, General Faculty Council.