

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Council Meeting
November 04, 2010

Members Present: Mark Baskaran, David Coleman, renee hoogland, Charles Parrish, Fred Pearson, Larry Lombard, Caroline Morgan, Allen Goodman, Mark Ferguson, Elizabeth Lublin, Geoff Nathan, Anne Duggan, Boris Baltes, Mark Vanberkum, John Klein, Avis Vidal, Robert Reynolds

Attending: Donald Haase, Christine Chow, Caroline Brzuchowski, Paul Clemens, Joe Kieleszewski, Joe Rankin, Catherine Jen

Absent With Notice: Marsha Richmond

The meeting was called to order at 9:30.

The minutes of the October 07, 2010 meeting were approved as amended.

Names were added to the slate of nominees from CLAS for the Article XXX committees. Those who nominated others agreed to approach the nominees to verify their willingness to serve on the committees.

Larry Lombard expressed his displeasure with the column on the nomination form for "Ethnicity," which he said should be marked "Race" or eliminated. Discussion ensued. Allen Goodman moved to table the matter and discuss it next time. The motion passed.

Catherine Jen, the chairperson of the Nutrition and Food Science (NFS) Department, presented her department's slightly-revised proposal to establish a BA in NFS with a Certificate in Culinary Arts-Culinary Management at Macomb Community College (MCC). The original proposal was presented at the Faculty Council meeting of April 02, 2009, and a motion to approve the program as a pilot, to be assessed at the end of three years by a board appointed by the dean, passed unanimously. A motion to pass the revised proposal in identical language passed unanimously as well.

The previous proposal was not forwarded to the Board of Governors in 2009 because the number of credits from MCC exceeded 64. That university rule has now been amended to accommodate programs such as the joint proposal with MCC, and Provost Brown has said that, as such, he will approve the program after its approval by the CLAS Faculty Council.

Robert Reynolds asked for nominees to serve on the CLAS Elections Committee. Four faculty members were nominated by council.

Donald Haase presented the subcommittee's revisions to the CLAS Factors for Promotion and Tenure. After some slight emendations to the document, a motion to approve the revised factors passed unanimously. Haase asked if the revision to the factors

needed to be taken to the CLAS Faculty Assembly next. It was agreed that the revised factors should be voted on by the full assembly.

Fred Pearson presented a report from the CLAS Budget Advisory Committee. He said that, at the committee's last meeting, the dean had informed the committee that 24 tenure-track searches had been authorized for this year. He also said that the dean discussed his difficulty in deciding whether or not to post the college's ranking of the recent RFPs.

Charles Parrish noted that the decisions regarding the RFPs had already been made and that the letters were going out. He said that his conflict with the dean was not personal; instead, it was over the issue of "representation"—and that the council, which represents the faculty, should have been consulted in the rankings, and should now know what those rankings were.

Much discussion ensued about the role of Faculty Council. Several council members wondered what exactly the phrase from the Bylaws, cited in the e-mail correspondence about the future of Faculty Council—"the Council shall formulate educational policy affecting the College and shall concern itself with all matters dealing with the general welfare of the College"—meant in practice, given the broad wording.

Mark Ferguson objected to Parrish's sending, seemingly on behalf of council, an e-mail to Dean Thomas, with a carbon copy to Provost Brown, demanding the posting of the RFP rankings. Ferguson said that council as a whole should pass a motion before such action is taken.

Parrish wondered again what was wrong with the dean's bringing the proposals to council. He noted that the new provost is transparent in his dealings with faculty and that the dean should proceed likewise.

Anne Duggan noted that what is done is done and that council could, first, collectively ask the dean for the rankings of the RFPs; and, second, make the role of council in such matters clearer in the Bylaws to avoid any future confusion.

Mark Vanberkum said that council has been too passive in general and that it could have created a subcommittee on this matter but did not.

Fred Pearson made a motion to formally request that the dean provide council with his prioritized list of the RFPs and that in the future the dean consult council on substantive matters.

During discussion, Mark Ferguson said that he'd vote "No," and objected to the tone of the e-mails sent by Parrish to the dean.

David Coleman said that that he'd vote "No" as well and pointed out that, according to Article III.12 of the Bylaws, "All substantive issues brought before the Council shall be

discussed at the meeting where they are first introduced and shall then be tabled for one month prior to final consideration.”

Boris Baltes said that he could see requesting that the dean post the unranked proposals by division, but that he did not support the idea of the posting of the ranked proposals either.

Geoff Nathan said that he'd vote “No” as well and wondered if the point of the request was to play academic “Gotcha!”

In light of David Coleman's invoking the article of the Bylaws stating that all substantive issues brought before the Council shall be discussed at the meeting where they are first introduced and shall then be tabled for one month prior to final consideration, Allen Goodman moved to table Fred Pearson's original motion until the December meeting. This motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10.