

Faculty Council minutes
Feb 14, 2007
Alanah Fitch recording

Present: Robert Bireley, Harvey Boller, Richard Bowen, Pamela Caughie, Janis Fine, Alanah Fitch, Paul Jay, Nick Lash, Marta Lundy, Gerry McDonald, David Mirza, Linda Paskiewicz, William Schmidt, Allen Shoenberger, David Schweickart, Michael Zinamen, and David Stagaman (for Patricia Jung)

I. Invocation Linda Paskiewicz

II. Approval of Dec 2006 Minutes; Jan 2007 Minutes

Dec. Minutes - remove lines, bottom pg. 2 approved: 11/0/2

Jan. Minutes -leave out even we don't; last paragraph - monitor not monetary; page 2 Is governance really shared GM saysremove the sentence with "stink" "The role of faculty council is to raise questions" 9/0/4

III. Chair's Report (Gerry McDonald, (GM))

GM requested a volunteer for a member of the Faculty Lounge Committee.

GM reported on the issue of early registration. Bob Bireley had brought up the issue that special early registration had been voided which affects many programs, for example, athletics and honors programs. GM said that he emailed John Fren dreis (JF), Acting Provost, about the issue. JF indicated that he had believed he had the authority to make the change and that preferential registration does negatively impact graduating seniors. He then followed up with an email that after discussing the issue with various groups on campus has decided that the decision should go through a University Policy Committee (UPC), so that no action will be taken (e.g. no change in registration policy) until it moves through a UPC.

GM reported that Chris Wiseman is the new provost, GM thanks Father Garanzini (President of the University) (Father G) for keeping him informed in a timely fashion.

Paul Jay suggested that she be invited to meet with Faculty Council (FC) during one of her trips to campus. Bob Bireley suggested be invited to the Aug. retreat, but Paul Jay responded that he felt we should meet with her earlier, and best early and often. There was some discussion on having an informal reception (cocktail party) for the new provost with FC. Rich Bowen felt that might be sending the wrong message.

GM asked for FC members to report on the status of the University Policy Committees (UPCs). Strategic Planning UPC has met and discussed sustainability (greening of the campus). There was some minor discussion on the uncertainty that recycled materials actually are recycled. The Faculty Affairs UPC has been in email contact. GM indicted that there is now an opening on the Academic Affairs UPC and asked for suggestions on faculty for that opening.

GM then updated FC on the Shared Governance (SG) charter. The two amendments requested by FC last meeting were accepted so the charter is officially accepted. GM thanked Paul Jay for the amount of work that went into tracking changes and offering changes in wording. Bob Bireley asked if there would be a formal announcement and if the SG charter goes into the new faculty handbook (FH). Paul Jay said that depends upon what the FH committee decides on hardcopy vs. linking policy for the FH.

IV. Continuation of Report from the Women's Commission

Bren Murphy indicated that she and Linda Heath had returned to continue the question and answer session that had been truncated at the last FC meeting. Pamela Caughie registered some concern about the general tenor of the report which allows administration to “fix” problems in that it may be that administration is part of the problem. She also asked that information be given out on the number of women who apply for positions, not just the number of women hired. She had another comment on the recommendation that leadership training be held for women. She felt that the issue was not that we lacked women to enter the positions but that they were leaving rapidly, indicating that the problem occurred during administration work. She ended with a request to have a committee to continue to monitor the variety of issues that were raised by the Women's Commission report.

Linda Heath stated that she agreed that the presidents' response to the commission report was very disheartening. She felt that there was a lack of communication between the committee and the president on the intent of the recommendations from the commission. The commission has no desire to become micromanagers or requesting specific quotas for women. The commission instead hoped to sensitize the upper administration to working actively to increase the voice of women as administrators in the upper administration.

Pamela Caughie suggested that the committee come up with a list of what an “oversight” committee might do and bring it to FC for endorsement. Gerry McDonald indicated that FC council is considering sponsoring an ad hoc committee to continue the work of the women's committee for as long as would be appropriate. Bren Murphy indicated that this would be a legitimate way to keep the process moving forward.

Allen Shoenberger brought up the issue that increasingly it is necessary for the University to be proactive in finding a job for a spouse and that LU currently had no one operating in that function. Michael Zinaman was surprised as that occurs routinely at the medical center. Marta Lundy was asked if this was a function that the Center for Faculty Development could take a lead in. She stated that they could explore it.

David Stagaman (attending for Patti Jung) remarked on the salary aspect of the Women's Commission report. He pointed out the discrepancy in salaries by discipline and/or college and that this is correlated with the number of women in the various disciplines. While this might be a response to market it may be that the University would like to think about changing this in the context of the social justice mission of the university. Linda Heath said she was troubled by the salary analysis because the committee really doesn't know what the real salaries are.

Alanah Fitch asked about doing a survey of the women who had left administration. Bren Murphy responded that the commission had started to generate a list of women to interview about reasons to leave when they were told that this was not going to be allowed, as it was unfair to current administrators. Gerry McDonald suggested that this could be carried out by a women's committee under the auspices of Faculty Council. Linda Heath stated that LU ranked third from bottom in terms of women administrators among Jesuit Schools of Higher education before Pete Faccione became provost and that by the time that he left LU had dropped to the bottom.

Pamela Caughie stated that she would like to work with the Women's Commission on drafting a resolution for FC to undertake a continuation of the work of the commission as part of a women's issues committee.

V. Committee Reports

Faculty Handbook Committee report (Paul Jay). Paul Jay reported that the Faculty Handbook committee has been working on the feedback received and are still awaiting response from the Dean's council. He stated that he felt that there was likely to be substantive changes related to contracts and appointments.

VI. Report on Rome Center - Brian Lavelle

Brian Lavelle, Chair of the Rome Center Committee, opened a question and answer session with faculty council with a review of the charge of the committee given by John Frendeis, Acting Provost. The committee was charged with providing advice to him on academic matters at the Rome Center. The committee met 10 times after constitutions and has held two open fora and solicited input from the deans. He stressed the "open" nature of the committee and its desire to hear from all. Minutes are posted on the web. He further reported that a new director for the Rome Center (RC) should be in place by August 2007. 30 applications have been received.

The move of the RC to the urban Rome area was discussed. Cost, building codes, and size of the property are issues. Students will be housed in scattered sites (likely with families) as opposed to the dormitory arrangement in the current center. Allen Shoenberger expressed concern about the security of students as the students will now represent the largest concentration of Americans in Rome. He asked if there was any thought about a separate financial incorporation of the Rome Center. Brian Lavelle noted the issue should be considered by the committee.

Rich Bowen asked about the composition of faculty at the RC. The current policy is stated that classes held at the RC should have content that makes central use of the location for the curriculum. However he has seen advertisements for general requirement general psychology to be offered at the RC. He also asked about the specification of 3 to 4 Chicago faculty as a target number. His question was seconded by David Schweikart. Brian Lavelle indicated that the number is related to the increasing difficulty in getting timely visas for Americans teaching in Italy. The difficulty is apparently related to preferential employment given to EU members.

Bob Bireley asked if student enrollment variability had any role to play in the departure of the current director. Brian Lavelle said no. Spring student population is always more numerous. The population will be affected by the move of the center. Bob Bireley then asked if the reputation of the RC as a party center could be changed and was it related to the number of students on campus. Brian Lavelle said that the party center reputation is one that is brought by the students before they arrive.

Janis Fine asked about the departure of the director. Marta Lundy asked about the proposal to replace the director with 2 positions, one related to academics and one more strictly administrative. Brian Lavelle confirmed that two people will be hired and that the two positions will be more structured than the prior singular position.

David Stegeman suggested that a new director should look at the class schedule (4 day week) which allows segregation of students by wealth over the weekends. He also indicated that the classes offered at the RC in the past few years in Theo have not "been up to snuff".

VII. Report on the SON Dean Search - Linda Paskiewicz

Linda Paskiewicz has been appointed chairperson for the search for a new School of Nursing

Dean. The committee is working with a professional search firm with a large data base.

VIII. New Business - Faculty Salaries - Harvey Boller

GM stated that there was no longer a quorum to vote on the FC proposal regarding salary data:

“Resolved, that Faculty Council respectfully requests the Provost to furnish Faculty Council with the relevant salary data concerning the attainment of the goals of the University’s salary equity adjustment plan”.

David Mirza asked that the resolution be changed to read:

“Resolved, that Faculty Council respectfully requests the Provost to furnish Faculty Council with the relevant salary data concerning the attainment of the goals of the University’s salary equity adjustment plan in accordance with his offer to do so”.

A straw vote on the resolution with amendment was unanimous.

X. Adjournment

adjourned 5:03.