

**CNU Faculty Senate Meeting
15 August 2011
McMurrin Hall 200B**

Present: Martin, Puaca, Bardwell, Pollard, Adamitis, Wang, Barnello, Zestos, Selim, Weiss, Connell, Carpenter, Von Berg

Absent : Redick, Hall

I. The meeting was called to order at 11:30

II. The Senate acknowledged the electronic approval of the April meeting Minutes. Adamits called the vote, Bardwell seconded. Vote: unanimous

III. President's report. Please find the written commentary from the president [here](#). After senators introduced themselves, the president updated the senate on the activities he worked on during the summer. He highlighted that the website is now up, working, and accessible thanks to the efforts of Bill Brauer, Bruce Bronstein and Maggie Vaughn. He also commented on the preparations for the Faculty Senate gathering planned for Wednesday 17 August with the whole faculty. The president set this up in June while the Getting Started Week schedule was undergoing revision. The primary goal will be to build communication networks with faculty and to listen to faculty concerns as we enter the new year with the hope of organizing them into initiatives for the senate to pursue.

The president reported on the SEC meeting with the Provost on Friday, 12 August, in which he briefed the SEC on the proposals he planned to introduce to faculty during his Getting Started Week talk. These included the focus on STEM, the four new STEM programs under development, restricted faculty multi-year contracts, and the transition to the 3/3. He also pointed out the new changes in assessment weighting which will go with each of the 5 possible teaching loads. The president also noted the coming review of the curriculum.

The president further commented that the Senate should work on faculty development projects and asked the senate to think about proposing a University Standing Committee for Faculty Development. Faculty should have the tools to interpret IDEA, to understand the system by which they are evaluated, and to have support in their efforts to succeed and develop as faculty. This discussion grew out of the feedback received by the IDEA taskforce convened by the Provost in AY 2010-2011. Such a committee would be aimed at all faculty seeking the best path to tenure and promotion and also to maintain excellent standing for the benefit of the entire university community.

August candidates for degree approved by the SEC and will go forward.

Discussion of the President's Report: Senators discussed several issues. Advising came up and some wondered whether it might be treated as teaching (as core advisors were instructed in a recent email from the Vice President for Student Success) or service as the Senate resolved in 2010-2011 (see 9.17.10 Minutes, III. B. 1). Senators also wondered about the expansion of the ranks of non-tenure track faculty. As contingent faculty on restricted contracts expand the senate observed that these faculty might constitute a sizeable portion of the total faculty and therefore might need representation on the Senate. The SEC noted that the provost remarked that such a move toward a higher percentage of restricted faculty kept CNU in line with peer institutions and faculty trends across the academy. In regard to faculty development, some senators had suggestions about uniformity, recognizing that there is a department eval-4, a university eval-4, and the University Handbook and that these do not always agree. One senator proposed also that IDEA in the UE-4 makes no use of reliability data IDEA provides based on sample

size and relevance.

IV. Committee Reports

A. SEC Reports from the Board of Visitors Meetings in May and June.

Main and Development, June (Pollard): Reported that he attended the main Board meeting and the development meeting. The BOV discussed the upcoming 50th anniversary celebrations to be held this fall. The development meeting seemed to indicate that the University remained on secure financial footing.

Academic Affairs, June (Bardwell): Reported that the issue of hiring and recruiting minority faculty was of concern for the board. COACHE data, according to the provost, shows we are in the mainstream in our hiring diversity. Most of her session, however, was closed due to discussion of personnel.

Student Life, June (Weiss): The numbers of accepted students and the introduction of new staff were discussed. As was the issue of minority hiring at CNU.

Finance, June (Adamitis): The subcommittee was in favor of raising tuition, perhaps even further than proposed. The board felt that CNU is on similar footing to other similar universities, but it still costs less. The discussion of funding metrics, tuition increases which decrease ERA funds, was part of the meeting. CNU has habitual saved for the possibility of substantial budgetary shortfalls as is therefore on sound financial footing. The issue of encouraging out of state enrollment has been contentious on this committee, some in favor of expanding for the influx of tuition dollars while other opposed it on the grounds a state university should serve residents first. The finance committee is also concerned about faculty and staff salary stagnation and is working on a resolution.

V. Old business

A. Faculty recognition site

President Tribble, Pete Carlson and Scott Pollard toured various sites in May to find an appropriate place for the recognition monument. President Tribble favored putting the site on the University Carillon, which is yet to be built, but will have a central place on the campus. Various other sites, such as academic buildings and the library were also considered. Pollard also suggested making independent monuments modeled on those found at Purdue University.

Background: The Senate has been working for several years under the leadership of senator Puaca to identify university faculty who retired after serving ten or more years under the auspices of recognizing and memorializing their service to the school. The University committed to identify a suitable location for such a site in the spring 2011 semester and proceed with the construction of some kind of recognition monument.

VI. New Buisness

A. The full Faculty Senate will meet on the following Fridays, 8/26, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18 and in the spring on 1/20, 2/17, 3/16 and 4/20.

In the fall semester, the full Senate will meet with the President and Provost, or alternately the President or Provost in the Brauer Room on 9/9, 10/7, and 11/11.

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) will meet with the President in the Brauer Room on 9/21 and 11/30 and the Provost on 10/5.

In the fall the SEC will meet from 3-4 on the following days (location TBD) 8/24, 9/14, 9/21, 10/19, 11/16.

B. Review and Update

1. Faculty Senate Philosophy – tabled
2. Faculty Senate Goals 2011-2012 – tabled
3. BAC Memo – tabled

C. Appointment to Standing Subcommittees

1. Faculty Senate Goals

- a. Objective 1: Hiring and Retention: Puaca, Zestos
- b. Teaching, Scholarship and Service: Pollard, Redick, Martin, Selim,

Wang, Hall,

Von Berg

- c. Standards and Practices: Carpenter, Bardwell, Zestos, Redick, Martin

2. Priority Advisory Committee (PAC): Vacant

Discussion: the president proposed disbanding this committee. It has not been active for several years and seems redundant to the duties of the SEC. The senate will consider a vote on this measure in the next meeting.

3. Handbook Committee: Senators Connell and Adamitis

4. Sabbatical Committee: 4 members, 1 from each area, 1 at large: Brian Puaca (A&H), Dali Wang (NBS), Tom Hall (SS), Raouf Selim (at large)

5. Faculty Development Grants: 1 from each area, 1 at large: Scott Pollard (A&H), Deanna Carpenter (NBS), Michelle Barnello (SS), Stephanie Bardwell (at large)

6. Department Liaisons

A&H

ENGL: Pollard

ART: Redick

HIST: Connell

MCLL: Adamitis

MUSC: Puaca

PHIL/RSTD: Redick

THEA: Adamitis

NBS

OENB: Weiss

MBCH: Weiss

Math: Martin

PCSE: Dali Wang

PSYC: Deanna Carpenter

SS

ECON: Zestos

BUSN: Hall

LAMS: Hall

COMM: Von Burg

GOVT: Barnello

SOCL: Bardwell

7. Liaison to Chairs: Eric Duskin (A&H), Quentin Kidd (SS), Ed Weiss (NBS)

8. Faculty Awards Committee: Adamitis, Von Burg

9. Senate Elections Committee: Connell, Weiss, Barnello

D. EVAL-4 Subcommittee appointment.

Background: The senate constituted the subcommittee in AY 2010-2011 to field faculty

complaints which arose in the fall.

Discussion: The president saw the eval-4 revision committee as being associated with the standing committee on faculty development and hoped to push its function into the purview of that committee. Some senators saw a need to preserve this committee, particularly with a curricular review upcoming and the potential that weights of faculty activities would be altered with teaching load in the coming academic year. Others saw this as a redundancy. The senate will pick up the discussion of this committee in the next meeting.

At 12:17 the Faculty Senate proceeded out of order, considering VI.I. Faculty Senate sponsored Speaker.

Background: Over the summer President Pollard proposed to the deans that they might assist in the sponsorship of Josipa Roksa, a professor at the University of Virginia and author of the book *Academically Adrift*, a critique of higher education which argues that university faculty evaluation can undermine the mission of the university causing large numbers of students (36% in her survey) to emerge with no better skills than they arrived with. Professor Roksa offers as a solution greater reward for classroom rigor and high standards inside a writing and reading intensive liberal arts environment.

Pollard offered the motion that the Faculty Senate invite professor Roksa to campus to talk to faculty about development and undergraduate education in the fall and perhaps to provide a workshop. Puaca seconded the motion.

Discussion: Senators generally agreed this would be an excellent faculty development opportunity. Concerns about cost emerged. Pollard secured support from the deans of all three colleges who would provide financing for the Faculty Senate sponsored event.

Vote called: Unanimous

At 12:25 the Faculty Senate returned to order.

E. Faculty Development Grant Schedule

Faculty Development Grant Applications will be due on the following schedule

Fall

Due to Chairs: October 21
Due to Deans: November 2
Due to Senate: November 11
Senate Vote: November 18

Spring

Due to Chairs: March 12
Due to Deans: March 26
Due to Senate: April 9
Senate Vote: April 20

F. Sabbatical Application Deadlines

Fall

Due to Deans: 1 November
Due to Faculty Senate (from Deans) 15 November
Faculty Senate Reports to Provost 10 December (Faculty Senate vote 18 November meeting if possible).

G. Resolution to excuse Kip Redick from senate dues for fall, the text of the resolution is [here](#).

Background: Senator Redick was awarded a Sabbatical for the fall semester. The resolution excuses Redick from the meetings he will miss so that he will not be in violation of the University Handbook.

Senator Bardwell moved that the Senate vote on the resolution, Senator Weiss seconded.

Vote: Unanimous.

H. University Committee on Faculty Development. The senate considered the formation of this

committee out of order. It was part of the president's report and discussion ensued around the preservation of the UE-4 Subcommittee. The senate took no action, but agreed to discuss it in the next meeting.

VII. Other

Procedure for all-faculty meeting on 17 August.

The meeting is planned for 8:30 AM and is scheduled for 1 hour. Individual senators will meet with small groups of faculty to talk about the senate and to solicit feedback and priorities for the coming academic year.

Discussion: some senators thought that faculty, particularly new and untenured, might be concerned about anonymity. Index cards should be provided for those wishing to air ideas with some protection. There was also discussion of the exact role of the senate and the proposition that new faculty and even returning faculty might need to understand the role of the senate in University governance. The senate secretary will take notes and provide for the senate a report of this discussion for the next scheduled senate meeting.

A second issue emerged from the senate on the problem of University Catering. Apparently some departments have had difficulty sponsoring student events because the price catering charges for a lunch exceeds the state allotment. Departments therefore have to rely upon secondary funding. Catering also seems to need additional oversight. In one event from the graduation season, a department ran out of water and punch and catering would not provide additional. It raised the question for the department that if punch and water are provided at a per person fee, why would they provide the same quantity to a guest list of 50 as they would to a list of 100. Because of these difficulties, the senate will initiate a discussion with the university administration.

A final issue came up regarding university policy regarding students who pass away during an academic semester. Senators were unsure if a uniform policy existed, and if not, proposed that the university come up with such a policy.

Discussion: This emerged from a recent passing of a student where a professor was asked to submit final grades for that student. The ethical issues are not so clear, can a professor provide a final grade that is accurate when the term is not complete? Must a professor be compelled to issue a grade in such a circumstance?

The senate resolved to ask for information from the university registrar to determine the policy and to communicate that policy to the faculty.

Motion to adjourn by Senator Weiss, seconded by Senator Bardwell
Ended 12:48