

Faculty Senate minutes

30 September 2005, SC214

Senators present: Guajardo, Cartwright, Vachris, Schwarze, Whiting, Adamitis, Underwood, Kidd, Sellars, Knipp, Grau, Breese, Hicks, Kidd (left at 4:30)

Senator absent: Wymer

Guests: Jason Scheel (Student Government Association), Kim Mazzuca (Captain's Log), Professor David Pollio, Professor Danielle Velardi, Kevin Hughes (Director of Student Life)

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:06 PM.
- II. Introduction of guests
- III. Acknowledgement of approval of 9/2 and 9/20 meeting minutes. (available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/minutes/9_2.html and http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/minutes/9_20.html, respectively)
- IV. Director Hughes briefed the Senate about fostering the campus conversation on the Honor Code. While past attention has been paid mainly to the "crime and punishment" aspect of this, efforts are now being made to broaden this into a discussion of a "culture of honor". For instance, several speakers (including David Callahan, author of *The Cheating Culture*) are scheduled to come to CNU. Hughes asked the Senate for suggestions about how to further his goal, to which Senators responded with the following ideas.
 - placing more emphasis upon substance and less upon ritual
 - creating situations in which upperclass students impart values upon freshmen
 - making the Honor Code seem less like parenting
 - expanding enrollments in ethics courses at CNU

At this time item VI.E (taken out of order, in order to allow Chair Danielle Velardi to answer questions) was taken out of order. See below.

V. President's report

- A. Governor Warner will visit our campus Monday, Oct. 3, 3 p.m., in the Ferguson Concert Hall. Students and faculty are encouraged to attend if at all possible. Also, President Tribble is giving a State of University speech at the invitation of the Student Government Association at 5:30, in SC150.
- B. Faculty Council on Liberal Learning and Academic Life

recommendations regarding its composition and role in the curricular process will be forwarded to the Senate by Nov. 4, at which time the Senate will commence its deliberations on this issue and make its recommendations to the Provost. The actual *Handbook* change which the Senate recommends to the Provost will then come back through the Senate in the usual manner in late January.

- C. Budget Advisory Committee: There is an agenda item today for a *Handbook* change (sponsored by the Budget Advisory Committee) to increase the number of faculty on the committee from 5 to 6. If we enact this change, then President Tribble can select two appointees (rather than 1) from list of 4 nominations which we have sent to him.
- D. President Tribble has sent a letter to the mayor of Newport News about the Warwick crossing problem; it incorporates many of the suggestions for improvement that were discussed at the September 16 meeting between the President and the Senate. President Tribble presented this letter to the Board of Visitors at its 23 September meeting. Hard copies of the letter were distributed to all Senators.
- E. The Provost has affirmed the importance of Senate recommendations in the general education curriculum process.
- F. Parking: Senator Whiting will discuss with Bill Brauer the possibility of changing for next year the time students must move their cars from faculty lots from 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.
- G. Status of Academic Technology Advisory Committee's \$75,000 proposal to equip remaining classrooms with a basic level of technology (LCD projectors): According to Bill Brauer and Cindi Perry, funding is now available for this initiative; we are trying to complete the project as soon as possible. Timing/completion is dependent only upon the bid process, but will probably take place prior to the spring semester.
- H. Dr. Cones will convene University Chairs Council sometime this semester.
- I. The new Advisory Committee on Academic Advising (ACAA) created by the Senate is addressing a high priority issue on this campus, particularly in terms of freshman advising. Today we will appoint/elect the committee, and charge it to report its recommendations to us no later than Dec. 2 for implementation in Fall 2006.
- J. Students wishing to travel to conferences to make presentations may receive up to 50% of that funding from the Provost's office, as long as funding permits (\$20,700 total funds are available). Department commitment to student research is paramount in accessing these funds,

and departments should make every effort to support the other 50% of the travel (through their E&G budgets, grants, or other funding sources), although if they are unable to do so, students still may receive 50% of the funding from the Provost's fund. "Prior Approval to Travel" paperwork still must originate in the department and bear the department chair's signature.

VI. Committee reports

A. Board of Visitors' (BOV) meetings:

- Hicks (Finance): This meeting was conducted mostly in closed session.
- Knipp (Academic Affairs): Two items were discussed.
 - Foreign-Language Teaching Assistantships: CNU's Arabic instructor is a foreign graduate student who is teaching two sections. As part of this arrangement, the instructor is entitled to enroll for free in classes at CNU.
 - "Academic Plan" which CNU must submit, as part of the Restructuring Act of 2005. See Schwarze's report about this, below.
- Knipp (Development): Nancy Wilson has resigned as the head of CNU's office of University Advancement, and John Miller has returned to CNU to fill this role. President Tribble states that our capital needs are largely met, so we should now raise money for other purposes, such as scholarships (need- *and* merit-based) and endowed professorships. There was lively discussion about the role that BOV members should play, in raising money.
- Cartwright (Student Life): Applications are up, as is minority enrollment. None of the top five "feeder" schools for CNU are in the Tidewater area; instead, they are mainly in northern Virginia.
- Schwarze (Full Board): The board discussed the financial plan that the university must prepare as part of the statewide 6-year plan effort. The goal of this effort is to strategize how to achieve full base-adequacy funding for state colleges and universities by 2012. Options: 1) plan for base-adequacy funding without any additional state contributions 2) assume state funding will increase by a level amount each year. The Board granted authority to its Finance and Audit committee to approve the plan, as its will not be binding on any future Board.

The Board also heard discussion about preparation of the university's academic plan, also part of this 6-year-plan effort. The academic plan

will address the following:

- 3-5 page broad-brush statement on the university's aspirations
- Access to higher education--independent of students' abilities to pay
- Affordability: We are currently second in the nation (from the bottom) in the amount of debt our graduates incur for their education.
- Broad range of mission-consistent programs
- Mechanics for assessment/evaluation of program quality
- Improving student retention
- Articulation agreements with all community colleges in the state
- Stimulating economic development
- Engaging in research
- Strategies for developing K-12 partnerships

B. Knipp (FCLLAL): This committee met on 9/9/05. (minutes available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/FCLLAL/9_9.doc)

Subcommittees were formed to ...

- review new proposals for Areas of Inquiry (AoI) courses
- review First Year Seminar (FYSM) proposals
- decide whether "double-dipping" should be allowed
- design the Degree Studies requirements
- decide upon the future composition and curricular role of FCCLAL (Knipp is on this subcommittee.)
- select the book for the "common reading experience"

Also, CNU's Director of Assessment and Evaluation made a presentation about the task of assessing the new curriculum. Future meetings will be at 4 PM on the second Friday of each month.

C. Vachris (faculty hiring policies): This committee has now provided an updated report (available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/hiring2.doc), which includes a breakdown by department.

D. Cartwright (Senate Review): They will soon start surveying the general faculty for their perceptions about communication, representation, and governance. This committee will also investigate the extent of university responses to the Senate's formal actions. Denise Moclair probably has memos which will facilitate this investigation.

Note that the following item was covered out of order, as described above, before item V.

E. Adamitis (Foreign Language Placement Policy Committee): On 9/22/05 this committee met and made recommendations (available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/FLANnew.doc) about the foreign language (FLAN) graduation requirements and placement recommendations. In particular, the committee made the following recommendations:

1. All students must take a 3-credit FLAN course at the 200-level or higher, or its equivalent, regardless of their degree of high-school experience in that language.
2. In order to avoid the temptation for students to "sandbag" (ie, to enroll in a 100-level course solely in order to obtain an easy "A"), all 100-level FLAN courses be taught on a pass-fail basis.
3. Students who achieve "equivalent" competency as described above (from native speaking, secondary schooling in a foreign language, or adequate training in a language not taught at CNU) will receive a waiver *and* credit.

On 9/27/05 the department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures (MCLL) met and debated the committee's recommendations. MCLL recommended for item 1, against item 2 (in order not to deprive beginning students from the opportunity to use hard-earned A's in introductory FLAN courses in their GPA), and against the "credit" aspect of item 3 (because it seems to be a weakening of existing CNU policy). MCLL thinks that the introduction at CNU of Arabic and Italian will cause many students to start these languages at the 101-102 level. The Senate moved and seconded that the committee's recommendations be amended by having FLAN101-102 taught for a grade, rather than for pass-fail. The motion passed, with 8 (Underwood, Adamitis, Schwarze, Kidd, Cartwright, Guajardo, Knipp, Grau) voting "for", 5 (Doughty, Hicks, Vachris, Whiting, Breese) voting "against", and one abstention (Sellars). The Senate then voted unanimously to accept the committee's recommendations, as amended. Here is a summary of these proceedings:
Graduation Requirement: Any course in a modern or classical language at the 200-level or higher, or the equivalent.

Placement Recommendations (based on the number of years of high-school experience for which the student earned grade of C or higher):

- 0 or 1 years: 101
- 2 years: 102
- 3 years: 200 or 201

- 4 years: any 300-level course

(Detailed summary of the Senate's conclusions available:

http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/flannower.doc)

F. Underwood (sabbaticals): The AAUP's 1995 statement of principles on leaves of absence is as follows:

"Leaves of absence are among the most important means by which the teaching effectiveness of faculty members may be enhanced, their scholarly usefulness enlarged, and an institution's academic program strengthened and developed. A sound program of leaves is therefore of vital importance to a college or university, and it is the obligation of faculty members to make sure of the available means, including leaves, to promote their professional competence. The major purpose is to provide opportunity for continued professional growth and new, or renewed, intellectual achievement through study, research, writing, and travel."

This CNU committee's work is still very much "in progress", but here are some tentative recommendations about "regular" sabbatical leave and "junior faculty leave":

"Regular" sabbaticals:

1. One should not have to apply for a sabbatical (although "hiring bubbles" may cause problems with this).
2. A minimum of six years should pass between sabbaticals, but it would be automatic after 10 years.
3. Any tenured faculty member at the rank of associate, full, or distinguished professor should be eligible.
4. The administration should immediately authorize a minimum of ten sabbaticals per year, and the plan should be to increase this eventually to 25 per year.
5. Faculty members should receive 60% of their salary (rather than 50%) if their sabbatical is designed to occupy both semesters.
6. It is recommended that CNU's Office of Sponsored Programs be involved in the effort to obtain salary supplements for faculty who take their sabbatical during the entire year.

"Junior Faculty" leave: This would involve a 2-course reduction in one semester of either their 4th or 5th year at CNU.

G. Prof. Pollio (Student-Union Faculty space): The space is changed somewhat from that described in their report (available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/studentunion.doc). This room will be divided up to accomodate three types of activity: relaxing,

working, and meeting with students. It will probably be designed with partitions and for ease of maintenance. This room is intended as a *short-term* solution, with the longer term solution being that all academic departments get moved back nearer to the center of campus. The report was adopted unanimously by the Senate.

VII. Old business

- A. Advisory Committee on Academic Advising (ACAA): Professors D. Malaspina (PSYC), S. Bardwell (MGMT), and J. Paul (ENGL), and Senator Grau (BCES) were elected by the Senate to constitute the faculty component of this committee. We'll report two other names (C. Gerousis and N. French) to provost, as possible candidates for him to appoint. The Senate also voted to appoint Professor Paul to serve as the initial chair of this committee. The vote on this was 8 (Underwood, Breese, Adamitis, Knipp, Whiting, Vachris, Cartwright, Guajardo) in favor, 1 (Doughty) opposed, and 3 (Hicks, Grau, and Sellars) abstentions. The SGA representative will be Carly Stump.

VIII. New business

- A. Implementation of first two bullets of Strategy 1A of Senate Goals (available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/goals.html)
The following Senators were assigned to liaise with academic departments (in parentheses) which have no Senators: Underwood (Sociology, Social Work, and Anthropology), Knipp (Mathematics), Whiting (Communication Studies), Breese (Music and Art), Vachris (Leadership), Cartwright (Library Science), and Schwarze (Military Science). These liaisons will attempt to meet with these departments prior to the November 4 meeting of the Senate. President Schwarze will also host some "brown bags", in order to solicit ideas from faculty. Each of these will probably have a topic, in order to attract faculty, but they will also provide faculty an opportunity to provide suggestions. The first brownbag is scheduled for Thursday 10/27/05 during 12:15 - 1 PM. The topic for this will probably be either the Faculty Senate's recently ratified "Goals" or feedback from the first set of surveys distributed by the Faculty Senate review Committee (described above in VI.D).
- B. Office space for faculty having both emeritus and "distinguished" status (related handbook change available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/handbook/emeritus.rtf) There was some discussion about this.
- C. Increasing activities during graduation weekend
President Tribble has expressed interest in incorporating more activities in

graduation weekend. Perhaps this will require shifting graduation from Saturday to Sunday. These activities may include honors ceremonies and other types of rituals. This matter will be forwarded to FCLLAL for their consideration, as well.

D. Policy on freshman parking privileges

At the suggestion of President Tribble, the Senate is reconsidering the merits of restricting freshmen from bringing cars to campus. There is also some sentiment that freshmen should park in alternate locations (ie, farther from the center of campus). This matter will now be taken up by a Senate committee consisting of Breese (chair), Whiting, and Guajardo.

E. Increasing (from five to six) the number of faculty representatives on the Budget Advisory Committee (handbook wording available:

http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/BAC.doc)

This proposal came from BAC, itself, in order to provide a balance between faculty and administrators on this committee. This motion was moved, seconded, and subsequently passed unanimously by the Senate.

IX. Other:

A. SGA update (available:

http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/sga/9_30.doc) This was provided by Jason Scheel.

B. The Senate voted unanimously to go into closed session at 5:50 PM in order to discuss personnel issues. The Senate came out of closed session at 6:05

Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM

submitted by Peter Knipp, secretary of the Faculty Senate

If you are viewing a static copy of this document, see

http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/minutes/9_30.html for the online version.