

# SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

October 8, 2010

Dr. Peter M. Carlson  
President, Faculty Senate 2009-11

## Elections Redux

As you are all too aware, we have been working on elections for various university committees. We have had to replace some faculty members previously elected as we have had several resignations to contend with. We have replaced positions on the Faculty Mentoring Committee, the Faculty Review Committee, and the Undergraduate Academic Status Committee. Additionally, every 5 years the Senate must conduct a thorough assessment of its operations and evaluate our effectiveness; this process required volunteers to be elected: faculty members have selected Stephanie Bardwell (SS), Edward Weiss (NBS), and Mary Wright (A&H). We appreciate the willingness of these and many other colleagues to serve the campus!

## CNU Administrative Support for 3-3 Teaching Load

Please share the message we received last month from President Tribble and Provost Padilla that the senior administrators of our campus continue to be fully supportive of a reduction to a 3-3 teaching load for all tenured and tenure-track faculty. Both leaders commented on their awareness of the necessity of this teaching schedule and the President stated unequivocally that he wanted to shift to this next level as the budget permits and “sooner rather than later.” While we do not yet have the benefit of this important change, it is helpful to all to know that it is still alive and in our future.

## Faculty Development Grants and Sabbaticals

Applications for Faculty Development Grants (FDG) and Sabbaticals will be due to our Department Chairs immediately after the Fall Break, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

The FDG applications has been undergoing major revision, and we will soon see a significant shift in the process. The recommendation to the Senate will suggest that the Senate cease recommending specific amounts as the dollar value recommendations are variable depending on money available – and specific budget amounts are often not known until closer to the end of the academic year. The Provost will add to the total FDG funds if he is able. Therefore, the SEC is recommending that we continue to prioritize the FDG projects, but leave the specific value to be set at a later time.

Additionally, we will recommend that the Senate create a committee that will focus on Faculty Development. This group will be one committee that reviews all FDG applications (each semester) and Sabbatical requests. This should allow us to more efficiently do this work that is

so important to our colleagues and allow the Senate to quit worrying about FDG funding details that are really not big value items.

#### CNU's Rector to Visit Our November Meeting

We have extended an invitation to attend a Faculty Senate Meeting to the University's new Rector and chair of the Board of Visitors, Mr. John Conrad. He will attend our November 19 General Senate Meeting.