

Minutes of General Faculty meeting, Christopher Newport U.

Tuesday, 28 November 2006, SU255

President Schwarze called the meeting to order at 12:27 PM.

- I. Certification of the graduates (list available at http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/06_07/misc/decembergraduates.xls) was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously, but Stephanie Bardwell pointed out that all of the Management majors on that list were inadvertently labelled as Marketing majors. (**Ed. note:** Bardwell subsequently provided a [list](#) of these, with correct majors designated.)
- II. It was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously to change the constitution of the Faculty Senate by adding to the University Handbook (XVII.B.3.b.1) the following language:
"Any department that wishes to change its 'area' can petition the Faculty Senate, in writing (electronic submission), providing a rationale for such change. The petition must be submitted no later than the end of the 4th week of the fall semester preceding the effective date of the proposed change. After receipt of the request for change, the Faculty Senate will hold a two-week comment period, during which the responses from other departments in both affected 'areas' will be solicited. The Senate will then vote at its next meeting on the request. If approved, the change will be submitted to the fall meeting of the General Faculty for a vote."
This change originated from last year's Senate Review (report available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/05_06/misc/reviewfinal.rtf)
- III. Gary Whiting provided an update (presentation available: http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/06_07/misc/building/11_28.ppt) on plans for new academic buildings. It is no longer planned that students will live on the top floor of the new academic building, but the impending fate of Gaines Theater is not yet finalized.
- IV. Schwarze provided the following reports.
 - A. Search for a new provost:
The committee has been on a brief hiatus this month (since the Nov. 8 update to faculty and staff) while applications arrive at CNU and while Morris & Berger work to create a candidate pool. Thus far, we have received about 50 applications.
The university mailed 1,800 letters to deans, provosts, associate deans, and department chairs at the top 100 liberal arts and sciences institutions

in the U.S. on Nov. 10; on Nov. 17, Morris & Berger sent over one thousand letters to provosts, deans of the faculty, vice presidents of academic affairs, and department chairs at the top 50 national universities, the top "comprehensives" nationwide, and all public liberal arts colleges/universities. As of last Wednesday, they had 11 prospects and 31 sources - a good start considering their correspondence had only been in the mail 5 days.

The application deadline is Dec. 11; our review and initial rounds of interviews (via telephone and at airport hubs) will begin shortly thereafter. We will bring 3 - 5 candidates to campus in February. After hearing from the university community, the committee will recommend to the president by the end of February, according to the current timeline. Additional information about the search, including the criteria and procedures for screening candidates (developed from the committee's public meetings with the faculty) may be found at <http://provostsearch.cnu.edu/updates>.

- B. The Senate has been working hard this year to follow up/implement last year's initiatives, including the [transition](#) to a 3-4 teaching load. Because many of our proposals last year had significant dollar costs, we have established a Priority Advisory Council ([PAC](#)), a standing Senate committee, that will review all Senate initiatives and their costs, and recommend priorities to the full Senate. Acting on those recommendations, the Senate will then be able to communicate these faculty priorities to the Budget Advisory Committee (the Senate president and the PAC chair will make a presentation at the Feb. BAC meeting). Senator Vachris is chairing the PAC.

C. Academic Calendar:

The Senate is still working on a recommendation regarding permanent changes to the academic calendar. Senator Sellars is chairing that effort. Because the university is trying to publish the calendar earlier in the year, next year's [calendar](#) is posted online - it reflects the 'experiment' that the Senate and the administration agreed to try for a single year while the Senate works on its recommendation. In next year's academic calendar, classes begin one week later than usual, on Aug. 27; classes end Dec. 7. Exams begin Dec 10 and end Dec. 15. The Spring term begins Jan 21; Spring recess is March 9-16; classes end May 2. Exams are May 5-10, and commencement will be Sunday, May 18. At this time there are no plans for a January "intersession".

- V. At this time there was open discussion of CNU's plans to [transition](#) faculty to a 3-4 teaching load. Some arguments were made for and against the potential

plans, and a few alternative plans were suggested, namely ...

- ... including restricted faculty in the group that will eventually receive reduced loads
- ... rotating the 3-4 load-reduction among the faculty until 2011 (at which time all will receive this reduction)
- ... accelerating the transition time from 5 years to 3 years

The meeting was adjourned at about 12:55 PM.

Submitted by Peter Knipp, secretary of the Faculty Senate

If you are viewing a static version of this document, see
http://facultysenate.cnu.edu/06_07/minutes11_28.html for the online version.