

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

September 17, 2010

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

FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES DURING CAMPUS EMERGENCIES

CNU faculty members have significant responsibilities to discharge in the event of a classroom or campus crisis. These range from student illness, fire alarms, criminal incident on near the campus, inclement weather, up to and including an armed intruder on campus.

In the last two weeks we have been faced with the possibility of a hurricane and had to deal with an armed robbery at CNU Village. This certainly brings home the reality and importance of emergency planning!

Each of us must insure that we know what must be done and the significant actions that must be taken in the event of a physical threat to our well-being. The most important tasks include maintaining order in the classroom and the protection of our students and faculty. Minding that the flow of information will be intermittent during a serious event, we all must insure that students are not released from class inappropriately and that classrooms are defended as well as possible under difficult circumstances.

CNU's Emergency Planning Director, Austin Givens, is available to provide training to all faculty members, either in a group or individually. It is incumbent on us that all faculty members, new and experienced, receive this important information.

Finally, the Senate is working with the Provost's Office to consider the best means of maintaining academic continuity in the classroom in the event the campus is closed for a period of time (hurricane or other calamitous event). Faculty must be prepared to offer assignments in each course that will insure progress in the course subject; we are currently considering the best way to further this objective and all ideas are welcome. Please share your thoughts with us.

CONSISTENCY BETWEEN CNU COLLEGES - To facilitate good communication with the three Deans of our new colleges, the SEC will continue the work we started last fall and we will initiate occasional meetings with the individual Deans. One of our responsibilities is to track occasional inconsistencies that can develop between the three colleges. If faculty members become aware of any inconsistencies between colleges in terms of program decisions, expectations of faculty, etc., please contribute your thoughts to the Senate SEC members on this important subject.

FACULTY SENATE WEBPAGE

The Faculty Senate webpage, developed two years ago, has been very successful and I have received many positive comments from faculty and members of the administration. It has become a first rate source of information and the senate has done well keeping it updated. Thanks to Maggie Vaughn, CNU webmaster, and Dr. Jana Adamitis of our Senate for all of their very hard work with this initiative.