

Minutes*

Faculty Consultative Committee
Monday, July 25, 2005
1:00 – 3:00
238 Morrill Hall

Present: Jean Bauer (chair), Gary Balas, Charles Campbell, Nancy Carpenter, Carol Chomsky, Tom Clayton, Barbara Elliott, Megan Gunnar, Mary Jo Kane, Morris Kleiner, Kathleen Krichbaum, Scott Lanyon, Judith Martin, Richard McCormick, Fred Morrison, Martin Sampson, John Sullivan

Absent: none counted for a summer meeting

Guests: Senior Vice President and Provost E. Thomas Sullivan

Other: Leanne Wirkkula, Sharon Reich Paulson (Office of the Provost)

[In these minutes:

1. Introductions and Chair's Report

Professor Bauer convened the meeting at 1:00, welcomed Provost Sullivan and his colleagues, and then briefly reviewed the role of the Committee. She noted two primary points about the Committee: its members are to represent the faculty at large, not individual campuses, institutes, colleges, or departments; and it is a consulting body to the President as well as the executive committee of the Faculty Senate.

Professor Bauer also reported that the President has appointed, with her consent, Professors Morrison and Sampson as the faculty legislative liaisons, so both will continue in the role they held last year. She observed that the President believes they have an important role in stating the case for the University and that the two of them are ideal candidates to serve in the positions.

2. Update on the Strategic Positioning Process

Provost Sullivan provided an update on the strategic positioning process that was focused on the appointment and charge to task forces. No specific charges or individual names were discussed. Committee members suggested a number of issues that one or more of the task forces should include in their foci: public engagement, academic freedom, and diversity (beyond areas already noted). It was also suggested that each task force be asked to include three elements in its report: measures to be used to judge accomplishment of the objectives, incentives to achieving them, and barriers to achieving them.

The Provost said he would provide the task force charges to the Committee for comment.

* These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate or Twin Cities Campus Assembly; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represents the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate or Assembly, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

3. Content and Distribution of Minutes

Committee members discussed issues that had been raised with respect to the specificity and distribution of minutes and agreed that Professor Bauer would communicate the Committee's views.

4. FCC/AAUP Event

At Professor Bauer's invitation, Professor Campbell reported that the Executive Committee of the Twin Cities chapter of the AAUP is working on revitalizing the chapter. The chapter has a new president, Professor Nelson Rhodus in Dentistry, who is bringing much-needed energy to the position. The Executive Committee met recently and concluded, *inter alia*, that it would like to revive the proposal to host lunches for new faculty, events that would be jointly sponsored with this Committee.

Professor Gunnar suggested that any effort include faculty who are not on the tenure track. Professor Chomsky urged that the faculty to be invited should include faculty who are just recently-tenured. An event for new faculty would help acclimate them to governance and the AAUP and allow them to meet senior faculty and other tenure-track faculty outside their own field; for newly-tenured faculty, it would provide an invitation to begin to participate in institutional life outside their own discipline and department.

The Committee voted unanimously that the Senate budget should be used to help sponsor lunches for new and newly-tenured faculty.

A related question was whether the staff to the Committee, who also serves as Secretary to the AAUP chapter, should be authorized to email Twin Cities faculty on behalf of the AAUP. The Committee voted unanimously that he should.

5. Advisory Committee on Athletics

Professor Bauer reported that there are two faculty vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Athletics. The President makes the appointments but the practice has been for this Committee to recommend names. The Committee developed a list of names and agreed that Professor Bauer would forward the names to the President.

Professor Clayton announced that this would be his last meeting and he thanked his colleagues for the experience of serving on the Committee.

Professor Bauer adjourned the meeting at 3:00.

-- Gary Engstrand

University of Minnesota