

Minutes*

Faculty Consultative Committee
Thursday, September 23, 1999
1:00 – 2:30
Room 238 Morrill Hall

Present: Fred Morrison (chair), Linda Brady, Susan Brorson, Mary Dempsey, Les Drewes, Richard Goldstein, David Hamilton, Roberta Humphreys, Leonard Kuhl, Joseph Massey, Marvin Marshak, Judith Martin, V. Rama Murthy

Absent: Stephen Gudeman, Mary Jo Kane, Paula Rabinowitz, Jeff Ratliff-Crain

Guests: Vice President Christine Maziar

[In these minutes: selection of FCC chair; research misconduct allegations; grants; UMC issues]

1. Electing the FCC Chair

Professor Morrison convened the meeting at 1:10 and reviewed with Committee members a proposal to change the manner in which the chair of FCC is elected, along the lines discussed at the meeting at Crookston. The Committee unanimously approved the change.

It was agreed that the Chair-elect would be elected at the first meeting in November, and would become chair for 2000-2001. In the future, the individual will also serve as vice chair; for the transition year, when there is already a vice chair elected, the individual will not serve in that role. Some accommodation will have to be made in the event a chair is re-elected. A final version will be circulated for action.

2. Recent Allegations

Professor Morrison next welcomed Vice President Maziar to the meeting, to discuss recent allegations. The Committee voted unanimously to close the meeting.

Among the topics discussed during the hour-long meeting were the length of time the investigation has taken, how cases are initiated and investigated, possible impact on students in a program/working on grants during an investigation, relationship to the NIH visit (which is NOT cancelled), and the need for training for staff and PIs who administer research grants.

2A. Recent News About Grants

Professor Morrison asked Dr. Maziar to share some "good news" stories. Dr. Maziar commented that one element of the story about the \$10 million gift from Cargill that had not received as much attention as it deserved was that the donation is a true gift; it comes with no strings attached and no

* 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 represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate or Assembly, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

background intellectual property deals. As further evidence of the University's emerging strength in the area of microbial genomics, she said that a few days later the University was able to announce that the National Cancer Institute awarded Professor David Sherman \$5 million to work in microbial genomics.

As for other matters in her domain, Dr. Maziar said that her budget is stable; while she has acquired new costs (over which she can exercise some control, unlike when her office is simply retrenched), grants-in-aid, GRAC, and fellowship programs have been preserved, and there is a healthy pool of funds for equipment matching grants. She said that while the grants management project is "in the center of my gunsights," there is also a need to rewrite the constitution of the Graduate School. She closed by commenting that she has an outstanding group of associate deans and assistant vice presidents.

Professor Morrison thanked her for joining the Committee.

3. Issues from the Visit to Crookston

The Committee remained in closed session, and discussed a number of matters that were brought to its attention while visiting the Crookston campus.

The Committee deliberated over the issues and what it might do in response. It was agreed that the Committee would revisit the topic in three weeks.

Professor Morrison then adjourned the meeting at 2:30, in order to convene the Senate Consultative Committee.

-- Gary Engstrand

University of Minnesota