

Committee of Committees Meeting
May 3, 2007
Faculty-Staff Club
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

The Faculty Executive Committee is charged with convening the Committee of Committees (CoC), which comprises faculty members of the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC), the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC), the Committee on Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure (CAPT), the Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights (CAFR), the Committee on Educational Policy and Planning (CEPP), the Curriculum Committee (CC), the Faculty Development Committee (FDC), the Athletic Council (AC) and any current ad hoc committees whose presence FEC believes would be helpful. The CoC convenes at least twice a year to assess the interactions among committees and between committees and the Administration, and to discuss ongoing issues (problems or successes) in committee operations.

The second CoC meeting of AY 2006-2007 took place on Thursday, May 3, from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Members from all of the above-named committees were present.

What follow are minutes of the meeting. A condensed version of a committee's report is given first; there follows a synopsis of reactions to and discussion of that report where applicable, with

there is already an ad-hoc provision for a supermajority in our meeting by-laws. A supermajority may well be requested for votes on implementation of the writing proposal's recommendations.

- **Q.:** Does CEPP discuss the fact that the College is moving down in the *US News and World Report* rankings? **A.:** Yes, but never as a formal agenda item. The College knew it would go down in the rankings, but also expects to go up next year. Perhaps

Report. A great year, due in no small part to excellent staff support. FDC has produced its own internal Committee Handbook. The Committee's relationship with the Associate Dean of the Faculty is a fruitful one. FDC awarded 40 collaborative research grants this year, and worked closely with the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Dean of the Faculty to ensure a transparent process for funding sabbatical leaves; the Committee reviewed all applications for sabbatical funding, and all applicants received some degree of funding. The faculty on FDC submitted a proposal to the ADoF, the DoF, and the VPAA last week for a continuing budget line for sabbatical support (a copy of that proposal will be sent to FEC). The Committee believes that the newly hired Director of Sponsored Research should sit on FDC next year, but the Committee would like advice on how this might best be accomplished.

Discussion.

- **Comment** (from FEC): FDC can invite anyone to sit in an ex-officio (non-voting capacity), but should eventually make a motion to amend the *Handbook* to make the Director a permanent ex-officio member.
- **Q.:** Would FDC consider doing a comparative study on travel to read and represent at our peer institutions, and presenting its findings to the DoF and/or IPPC? The annual \$1000.00 does not go as far as it used to. **A.** Yes, although FDC does not review individual proposals for reading or representing.

7. Faculty Executive Committee (FEC).

Report. FEC worked with CAFR on its motion for *Handbook* Part One, Article X, offering comments on a draft, and providing fora for discussion both at a Faculty Caucus (to which FEC decided not to invite members of the Administration) and in a Committee of the Whole at a full faculty meeting (at which the Administration had an opportunity to share its views). FEC recognizes that the Vice President for Academic Affairs had asked that she and the Dean of the Faculty be invited to the Faculty Caucus, but the Committee ultimately felt that the interests of CAFR were better served at that moment by a faculty-only meeting. FEC solicited comments on a motion regarding faculty who hold administrative appointments from both CAPT and CAFR. The feedback FEC received indicates that we are not yet ready to bring the motion to the faculty; we nonetheless think that there is a clear line between faculty-administrators who sit on administrative staff (such as those of the DoF or the Dean of Special Programs), and those who do not; and we are only concerned with restricting faculty rights as they pertain to running for committees, voting in faculty elections, and attending Faculty Caucuses. FEC has made some headway in its Service Project, and is working closely with the VPAA and the DoF.

Discussion.

- **Q.:** Is FEC aware of how many ad hoc committees there are? **A.:** Yes; we are concerned about their proliferation, but we recognize the need of faculty to participate in the important work for which these groups are assembled. We ask the Administration to consult with us on the formation of any group, regardless of size; generally speaking, they do consult with us.

- **Q.:** What about the Space Committee announced a while back? **A.:** We don't know.
- **Comments:** The Vice President for Finance and Administration has yet to release a \$30,000.00 report on the Art Building to the Art Department. In the absence of a Space Committee, the VPFA seems to be making decisions about spatial resources that require faculty input.

7. Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC).

Report. IPPC has been functioning well. The Committee now has a website separate from the Strategic Planning site. An Operating Code has been written and approved. Agendas are composed carefully, and submitted reasonably far in advance of meetings. Communication with the Administration is good, and the FEC members who sit on IPPC are reporting to FEC on IPPC's work, and bringing FEC's concerns back to IPPC. The Vice Chair of IPPC submits a written report of the latest IPPC meeting to FEC prior to each FEC-9 meeting, which has helped a great deal with communication. The work IPPC has undertaken this year includes implementation of optimization; introduction of the Campus Master Plan to the community; preliminary consideration of changes to retirees' health benefits (community meetings will begin this fall, although one feels that the Trustees have handed down a mandate that such changes *will* happen; faculty might hope to influence only *how* they happen); review of the budget for the coming year, including major budgetary parameters, new initiatives, and capital projects; consideration of the stewardship of the North Woods; introduction of proposals to reduce pager usage on campus, including support of double-sided printing; consideration of Strategic Indicators or a "Dashboard" (to indicate to the Board and other constituencies how the College is doing); discussion of bias incident response protocols; discussion of revisions to Handbook Part 6; consideration of the Integrity Board ownership issue; and review of the Special Programs Study Group Charge.

Discussion.

- **Comment:** The Faculty must do its best to counter the wholesale sabotage of retirees' benefits. Do the Trustees expect the Faculty simpl.-3(9.10(f)-1(i)-6(t)-(c)4(uy)20(Pc 0.004n

- **Comment**