

The Executive Council of the Faculty Senate  
November 9, 2009 – 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  
Booker House Conference Room

## Meeting Minutes

Present: Bob Bloodgood, Marcia Childress, Ann Hamric, Bob Kemp, Ed Kitch, Kevin Lee, Pam Norris, Marti Snell, Chip Tucker, Alf Weaver, Gweneth West, Dan Willingham.

Guests: Roseanne Ford and Stephen Macko, to discuss Dissertation Year Fellowships

**Ann Hamric, chair of the Faculty Senate**, called the meeting to order at 7 a.m.

The Council discussed the resolution on Open Access, especially the question of how to engage and inform the faculty. How ought Faculty Senate members to communicate their concerns to one another? Direct emails? Some found them useful. How do we fulfill our obligations as representatives?

Should the Senate call for a vote at the November 20 meeting or not? Should the resolution be modified to reflect faculty concerns? The implementation phase could be set aside from the resolution, to be considered when an implementation plan formulated by the Library comes before the Senate. It was suggested that we include in the resolution a statement that an ad hoc committee will work on this for two years, and at end of that time we will bring it up again. But should the Task Force retain oversight of this issue? It has been more time consuming than anticipated.

A request was made to set up a Collab site for Faculty Senate discussion of this issue. Similar use could be made of the Executive Council Collab site. Every senator needs a way to have linkage with his/her constituents if this is to work. The faculty needs to see that the Faculty Senate is interested in what they have to say.

Ann Hamric suggested a four-hour mini-retreat in December. Ann also suggested a gift of some kind for Madelyn Wessel and Brian Pusser to thank them for their work on the Task Force for Scholarly Publication and Authors' Rights.

The Council discussed the University of California Berkeley senate resolution calling for the administration to stop supporting the athletic department. Discussion ensued about U.Va.'s athletics department and whether donations to athletics take funds away from other areas.

Professor Hamric reported that the Senate decided not to join the Coalition On Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA).

Craig Littlepage will be addressing the Senate next semester. Perhaps Craig could be invited to the Executive Council meeting before the full Senate meeting, where he would be presented with questions. That would let him gather information ahead of time, so that he could have a question-and-answer period for the full Senate. A proposal was made that Mr. Littlepage be invited to deliver his NCAA-mandated report in writing in advance, rather than have him deliver it at the Senate meeting. This would facilitate the question-and-answer process.

### **Dissertation Year Fellowships - Roseanne Ford and Steve Macko**

**Steve Macko** reported that the program has given 43 fellowships in seven years, awarding more than \$1 million to graduates. It is unique among U.S. universities in rewarding both outstanding research and outstanding teaching.

The Alumni Association gave us funding for one fellowship in 2006. Professor Macko said he has just sent them a report about the successes of the student who received the fellowship. It is hoped that the Jefferson Trust will endow a fellowship, rather than hold a competition for funds.

**Roseanne Ford** said that regardless of the tough economic times, the Senate should continue seeking to fund this program. Otherwise available funds might go to other projects and new initiatives.

Professor Macko said that we get between 50 and 100 applications, and easily could find 50 excellent students that have the commonality of excellent research and excellent and teaching. It was suggested that his committee take the responsibility for contacting department chairs to find funding, but he said the voice of the whole Senate is more powerful.

It was suggested to create an Executive Committee task force to put together implementation ideas in preparation for the arrival of the new president.

The Senate might seek funding from some of the foundations. One selling point is that these fellowships make us more competitive with other universities that offer dissertation fellowships.

A suggestion was made to put the judgment process for fellowships in writing for future Executive Councils.

Maybe it is time to rethink the process. How can it be institutionalized a little more, with longer-term commitments?

Consideration was given to the November 20 Faculty Senate meeting agenda. A vote will be taken to approve the new MESALC masters program and the termination of degrees if

we have the documents from the Provost's Office in time for the Academic Affairs Committee to examine them.

Discussion took place on how to structure reports on initiatives from the Commission on the Future of University. Perhaps information on the initiatives could be posted as PowerPoints on Collab, so that the Senate meeting time could be devoted to Q&A.

For this meeting, it was recommended that Jefferson Public Citizens and international activities be invited to present. Could faculty advancement be a third presentation to request?

A suggestion was made to create a task force to follow up on the COFU initiatives, collect hard information, and write a report. This would provide accountability.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 a.m.

Submitted by Kevin Lee, Secretary of the Faculty Senate