

**Faculty Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**Tuesday, October 12, 2004**

Present: Michel-André Bossy (Chair), Andrew Brem, James Egan, Anne Fausto-Sterling, Donald Forsyth, Nancy Jacobs, William Rakowski, Michael Rosen, Chung-I Tan, Esther Whitfield.

Guests: Ruth Colwill, Sharon Rounds, John Tyler

The Chair opened the meeting at 3:05 p.m. Minutes of the 9/28/04 meeting were approved as submitted.

Professor Bossy gave a Chair's Report. The FEC officers met with the President and Provost and discussed the transformation of Brown's culture. There have been many differences of opinion between the administration and faculty about what is important to keep in Brown's culture. In order that faculty can voice their opinions, it is recommended a faculty bulletin board be created on the Faculty Governance web site. The Faculty Governance web site is currently owned by the Provost's office, but Provost Zimmer agreed with the FEC officers that it would be beneficial for ownership to be transferred to the manager of the Faculty Governance office. Clinical professor appointments and the Intellectual Property Policy were discussed with the Provost. The FEC officers identified three areas of the Policy that need revision, namely the sections dealing with terms of ownership, royalty distribution, and conflict resolution. Professor Bossy asked that the final draft be brought back to the FEC for input.

Dean Perry Ashley requested that faculty scholar introductions at faculty meetings be earlier on the agenda. After some discussion, the FEC agreed to put faculty scholar introductions at the beginning of the faculty meeting as long as introductions are limited to 2 minutes for each scholar and/or faculty member. More detailed information can be written and distributed at the meeting.

The President suggested that memorial minutes be submitted to the Faculty Governance office prior to the faculty meetings to make sure they are three minutes or less in length. Since the three memorial minutes read at the October 5 faculty meeting were read within the allotted time, the FEC decided that no change in the process is needed.

The MFEC is meeting with the Corporation this Friday. The FEC should think about meeting with the Corporation in February and what they would like to discuss. It was suggested that Russell Carey be asked when the Fellows would like to meet with the FEC.

Professor Rosen then voiced concern about the function of the Tenure, Promotions and Appointments Committee (TPAC). Discussion ensued with regard to faculty's role on TPAC vs. the administration and about statements on departmental standards and criteria. It is important that standards and criteria be done right and followed through in a timely fashion. The FEC will discuss this at the next FEC meeting when they have more time and decided to invite Dean Rajiv Vohra to the meeting for the discussion. In the meantime, the FEC should be thinking of other issues they wish to bring before the Dean of the Faculty if he can attend the 10/26 meeting.

There was discussion at the faculty meeting about committee reports, that there should be more lively discussion about them rather than just the faculty "rubber-stamping" them. The FEC should prepare people who do the report to launch a discussion at the faculty meetings.

The FEC revisited the clinical professor appointments issue discussing the criteria for the appointments and the special needs for different departments. Professor Bossy will inform the Provost that the FEC discussed the proposal and suggests that departments have the ability to choose different titles that fit each individual department under a “Rubric of Faculty Practice.”

The Honorary Degrees Committee needs one replacement, but the faculty members who expressed interest in serving on their preference sheets are not from the discipline needed. Professor Bossy asked that the FEC think about candidates for discussion at the next meeting.

The FEC discussed the Elderbears and decided to consult with the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) to see if they would be willing to take on their issues when they arise. Professor Peter Weber, FAC chair, will be invited to the 10/26 FEC meeting to discuss this and other faculty issues. It was suggested the FEC speak to the Provost about the creation of a directory of retired faculty.

Professor Peter Richardson brought up the issue of inaccuracies in faculty data located mainly on the various web sites. The FEC discussed the question of who the authority figure is that oversees all of this and discussing what methods could be used to keep data up-to-date. Ownership of web sites and the misuse of them were also discussed, and it was decided this should be a topic for discussion with Dean Vohra.

Dean Sharon Rounds was invited to discuss proposed changes to the Biomedical Faculty Council’s legislation describing academic titles for hospital-based non-tenure faculty, otherwise known as the “CORE” document. Although Dean Rounds does not think it needs a faculty vote of approval, she did want the FEC to be aware of the proposed change. Legislation was revised in order to bring the document up-to-date. The FEC questioned whether or not the document should be appended to the Faculty Rules and Regulations. Discussion was tabled pending arrival of the new Dean of Medicine. In the meantime, it was suggested that a link be made between the Faculty Governance web site and the Medical Faculty Affairs web site to the CORE document.

Professor Ruth Colwill presented a draft letter to Mr. Frank who made a very generous donation of a scholarship fund to support students who are on financial aid. The FEC commended Professor Colwill on a wonderful letter and agreed that Professor Bossy should sign as chair and the FEC members names be listed. The letter will be shown to President Simmons before it is mailed.

Professor John Tyler presented a proposal for a Masters Program in Urban Education and various aspects of the written proposal were discussed. The Graduate Council saw it earlier in the semester and asked that Professor Tyler revise the proposal for resubmission to the Council on October 19. Since it was not clear whether or not the APC had seen the proposal, Professor Bossy will ask the Provost about it. Dean Newman will need to notify the Faculty Governance office of the Graduate Council’s approval immediately following the 10/19 meeting so that the faculty meeting agenda can be finalized. If the APC needs to review the proposal, then faculty approval will be postponed until the December 7 faculty meeting. Professor Tyler thanked the FEC and will provide a condensed version of the proposal for inclusion with the agenda per the FEC’s request.

Brenda Allen submitted a list to the FEC of volunteers who she would like to ask to serve on the Diversity Advisory Board. Since the meeting was about to adjourn, Professor Bossy asked that Ms. Moreau send the list of names to the FEC via e-mail for comment. A message from Connie Sadler on behalf of the Computing Advisory Board will also be forwarded to the FEC for review.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Moreau  
Secretary