

Faculty Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Present: Michel-André Bossy, Albert Dahlberg, Ann Dill, Svetlana Evdokimova, Donald Forsyth, Nancy Jacobs, Robert Pelcovits (Chair), William Rakowski, Esther Whitfield

Guests: Sheila Bonde, Clyde Briant, Gregory Crawford, William Heindel, Bernard Reginster, William Risen, John Sedivy, Eric Suuberg

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. Minutes of the 10/25/05 meeting were approved as submitted. Professor Forsyth did not have anything to report on the Biomedical Faculty Council because they will not be meeting until 12/20.

Professor Pelcovits gave a Chair's report. The Ombuds search committee will consist of 6 members, 4 faculty and 2 administrators. The FEC is responsible for inviting and appointing four faculty of their choice to serve on the Committee. Disciplinary balance is necessary and must include a life/medical science person. Professor Pelcovits will work on contacting people from the FEC's recommended list of names and report the results at the next FEC meeting.

Professor Pelcovits revised the Rosenberger Medal of Honor solicitation memo making it clear that the FEC is the Rosenberger Committee and fashioned it after the Honorary Degrees solicitation memo. It was decided the submission deadline should be early February. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the memo as written.

Dean Vohra has been informed that the FEC is considering having a faculty forum about the Leave Policy, which came about as a result of the recent letter signed by 38 faculty members opposing the new Policy. It is important to educate the Faculty about the issues who may not have heard all the details, and more voices need to be heard. Complex discussion is expected. It was suggested that focus group meetings be a follow-up to the faculty forum. The FEC decided to schedule the forum early in Semester II.

Deans Sheila Bonde and William Heindel were invited to discuss the Graduate Council's annual report. Much of the Council's activity in 2004-05 was devoted to approving new and revised degree programs described in the written report. Several new courses were approved as well. The Graduate Council reviewed Brown's Table of Needs for the Campaign and made several suggestions and modifications for the benefit of the Graduate School. The Council will soon be discussing strategic growth of graduate programs with the Academic Priorities Committee (APC), Dean Bonde noting that BA/MA programs and Master's programs are on the rise. The Graduate Council will be evaluating graduate programs and meeting with department chairs across the University. They are mindful of curriculum needs such as the resources necessary for dealing with graduate programs. They recently completed a survey of TA's and will be examining it very closely. The Graduate Council's annual report will be presented at the December 6 faculty meeting.

Professor William Risen presented the annual report from the Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees. The deliberations of the Committee are confidential so details about specific nominations cannot be communicated. The Committee met several times between late spring and early fall and tried to come up with good nominees themselves in addition to nominations

submitted by the Brown Community. They consulted regularly with Wendy Strothman, Secretary of the Corporation, during the deliberation process resulting in effective communication with the Board of Fellows. The Committee reached agreement on a set of recommendations they presented at a breakfast meeting with the Fellows in mid October. The number of recommended honorary degrees has grown from 4-5 to 8-10 in recent years. The final decision of who the award recipients will be rests with the Board of Fellows. The Honorary Degrees annual report will be presented to the faculty at the December 6 faculty meeting.

The College Advisory Board (CAB) annual report was presented to the FEC by Professor Bernard Reginster, CAB vice-chair. The Board has been in existence now for about a year and a half and advises the Dean of the College on all matters regarding the College. The CAB vice-chair is involved with setting the agenda for the meetings. The Board met five times in the past year and discussed issues with regard to admission and financial aid, international programs, registration fees, undergraduate research, and academic advising. Many of their recommendations with regard to the issues were adopted. In 2005-06, the CAB plans to revisit the topic of undergraduate research and discuss freshman orientation, the Career Development Center, the Swearer Center for Public Service, the Academic Resource Center, and College writing programs. Discussion ensued with regard to the division of labor between the CCC and the CAB as well as the cost of studying abroad. Professor Reginster indicated that there is good communication between the CAB and CCC, facilitated by Dean Armstrong. Professor Reginster will present the CAB report at the December 6 faculty meeting.

Professor John Sedivy was invited to discuss a proposal for a Center for Genomics and Proteomics in the Division of Biology and Medicine at Brown. He gave a brief historical background about how the proposal for the Center grew out of an NIH award. The APC has reviewed the proposal three times since 2002 and supports it. The mission of the Center will be to spearhead the creation of research and education programs in contemporary genomics and proteomics at Brown and the affiliated hospitals. There will be six faculty positions in the Center, five of which have already been filled. Governance of the Center has not yet been discussed. Equipment and salaries for technical support are currently funded by the COBRA NIH grant until 2010. Space has been allocated for the core facilities, proposed Center and individual faculty. Genomics and proteomics is an area of rapid evolution, Professor Sedivy predicting the hire of a lot more staff because of the growing technology. The combination of the two entities has worked well so far but it is possible they could split somewhere down the road. Professor Sedivy will prepare a condensed version of the proposal for presentation at the December 6 faculty meeting.

A proposal by Professor Gregory Crawford, Dean Clyde Briant, and Professor Eric Suuberg for a Master's Program in Innovation Management and Entrepreneurship (PRIME) Engineering was presented to the FEC. They would like to bring it to the faculty for approval at the December 6 faculty meeting. The Graduate Council has reviewed and approved the proposal which compliments all undergraduate programs offered in Engineering. The Program has a well-defined niche and educational platform and an outreach to many parties. Greater than 30% of student clientele upon graduation pursue such careers and courses will be open to Ph.D. students as well. Professor Crawford touched briefly upon the proposed model for the curriculum, how to apply for the program, and described the robust financial plan. Faculty is very enthusiastic about the program and excited to move it into a Master's program. Professor Crawford will prepare a condensed version of the proposal for presentation at the December 6 faculty meeting.

The FEC turned to discussion about the OVPR Search Committee, the job description for the position, and names of faculty they recommend serving on the committee. The plan is for the

FEC officers to bring the list of names to the Provost on Friday for discussion. At that time, they will decide on a final list.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Moreau
Secretary