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SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSEMBLY

Minutes of the Meeting of June 8, 2004

Johnelle Luciani RSM, Speaker of the Assembly, presided. 52 members of the Assembly attended.

Executive Session

The meeting was called to order at 1:20 PM. The Speaker announced that the approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting would be deferred.

The purpose of this meeting was to review the summary of the written comments that faculty had added to their evaluations of administrators, as collated and edited by the Executive Committee. The administrators are the Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean of Faculty, the Dean of Graduate Studies, and the Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

The Speaker reminded everyone that what was said in this meeting must be confidential because the information was sensitive. She emphasized that this whole evaluation process began in the spirit of collegiality and its purpose has been to make the University a better place. As part of this general evaluation process, the Assembly will also evaluate itself in the fall.

Members of the Executive Committee took turns reading excerpts from the written comments. Only comments that appeared on more than one written evaluation were read aloud. The number of faculty who made the same comment was also mentioned.

The Speaker explained that, in order to insure confidentiality, the administration would not see the original statements that faculty wrote, only edited and retyped versions. If a comment only occurred once on the evaluation forms, it was included in the final summary that administrators would receive but it would not be read aloud at this meeting.

After the reading of the comments, the following Motion was presented and seconded:

Motion: Evaluation of Administrators – Written Comments

The Faculty Assembly authorizes the Executive Committee to assemble the comments presented at this meeting and to do the following: (1) send the comments concerning an individual administrator to that administrator and (2) send all of the comments to the President three days after sending them to the administrators.

The Motion carried in a voice vote. There was one abstention. There were no No votes.

The Speaker asked if there was any new business. A member of the Assembly said that the unusually large number of recent faculty office moves had caused considerable disruption; the Assembly should express its concern about the damage being done by these moves. The Speaker noted that the assembly's constitution (A.8.a) normally requires non-procedural motions to be submitted to the Executive Committee first. But, because of the urgency of this situation, the Speaker allowed a Motion to be presented on this issue.

Motion: Faculty Office Changes

Whereas there are many practical benefits in having administration and faculty work cooperatively in addressing the problem of allocating office space for faculty,

Whereas members of the Assembly are very concerned about the disruptiveness of changing so many faculty offices at once – especially the effect on faculty productivity and projects and the confusion these changes might cause among returning students and new students during orientation – and

Whereas it is the Assembly's responsibility to make recommendations that will contribute to a just and harmonious solution to problems in their work environment,

BE IT RESOLVED

- That a moratorium should immediately be established on faculty office moves, so that administration, faculty, and departments can have a chance to work cooperatively to assess needs and to find creative solutions before further decisions on faculty office moves are made and
- 2. That the Assembly shall appoint an ad hoc committee whose charge will be the following: (1) bring this Motion to the Vice President for Academic Affairs on or before June 18, 2004 and (2) offer to work towards a harmonious and just solution of this matter.

The Motion carried in a voice vote. There was one abstention. There were no No votes.

The Assembly appointed the following individuals to the ad hoc committee mentioned in the above Motion:

Michael DiMaio Sarah Littlefield (Chair) Paula Martasian Juliette Relihan James Yarnall

The meeting adjourned at 2:46 PM.