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Faculty Assembly Minutes March 2nd, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 2:36.

1) The minutes for the February faculty assembly were approved with minor corrections.

2) Reports and Announcements

i) Ad Hoc Committee Announcement (William Stout)

Announced that the executive committee established an ad hoc committee to provide faculty with updated information on the university's discrimination and sexual harassment policies. Specifically, the Executive Committee requested information about the policy and rights of faculty pertaining to discrimination and sexual harassment. The committee is composed of Robin Hoffmann, Michael Brady, Michael Budd, and Clark Merrill. Report to faculty expected in April.

ii) Treasurer's Report (Craig Condella)

Announced that there is a balance of \$1360 in the faculty assembly account. Faculty were encouraged to pay dues for 2010-2011 academic year (\$20).

iii) Nominations and Elections (Sarah Matarese)

The committee thanked all that voted online. Voting was anonymous but names were used to verify that a particular individual voted. Names were not linked actual voting outcomes.

3) Old Business

i) Executive Committee Planning Process (Michael Budd)

Announced that the executive committee is creating mechanisms to be more proactive and evaluate the faculty assembly. The committee is working to provide faculty with a description and history of the assembly, a survey to assess the needs and evaluate faculty participation.

ii) EPC Proposal (Chad Raymond)

Presented the existing process on how the VPAA and deans are evaluated during a three year process. Expressed concern on the length of the evaluation process. Presented changes to a more simplified, year long process where all the administrators would be evaluated during the same year. Concerns from the faculty were raised over the length of time for dialogue between faculty and all the evaluated administrators each year. Other faculty expressed concerns that the new system does not have the spirit of the original as it does not allow time for growth. New system, however, may provide greater frequency for feedback. It is also important to note that each of the administrators **was** contacted about the development of the proposed evaluation method.

4) New Business

i) Pilot Program for Common Core Course

Dean de la Motte announced a change **proposed by the English Department** to increase the flexibility of the course content covered for ENG 150, a common core. Will Stout suggested that this change be carried out as a pilot to examine ways for individuals to test **a new course format** before the core curriculum is assessed. Donna Harington-Leuker outlined the specifics of the change to ENG 150 (information distributed). A change from 5 common texts to 2

common texts was proposed however the goals and evaluation of the course have not been changed. The new proposal was reviewed by the core curriculum advisory committee and unanimously endorsed. Faculty expressed questions concerning the role of the core curriculum advisory committee, the procedure for making changes to the core classes, rationale for modifying the content, and mechanisms to assess the new **course format** compared to the old. The proposal will be rewritten as a pilot and presented using the electronic notification system.

5) Executive session was approved with unanimous consent at 3:58.

6) FACSB (Jameson Chace)

Presented a report from the Dec 17, 2010 meeting with the President concerning issues relating to faculty salaries, list of comparative schools, and professional development. Most of the discussion was about the list of comparative schools. Faculty endorsed the Tier IIA and IIB. Administration presented a different list based on institutional parameters like endowment and enrollment. Faculty expressed serious concerns over **providing legitimacy to the Administration's list** and indicated that it should not be recognized. Discussion about the inability to compete for new faculty and retain existing due to the lack of a competitive salary structure **followed**.

7) Meeting was adjourned at 4:28.