

MINUTES

Boulder Faculty Assembly

April 6, 2006

Attending:

R L Widmann, Vice Chair

David Kassoy, Secretary

Barbara Bintliff, Former BFA Chair

Sedat Biringen

Deane Bowers

Frances Charteris

Cathy Comstock

Don Eron

David Fagerstrom

Hardy Fredricksmeier

Martin Goldman

Samuel Junod

Roger King

E. Christian Kopff

Richard Laver

Paul Levitt

Uriel Nauenberg

Rolf Norgaard

Tad Pfeffer

Kathryn Pieplow

Terry Sawchuk

Petger Schaberg

Ravinder Singh

Deward Walker

Alexey Wolfson

John Cooper, Retired Faculty

Media:

Jeff Dodge, Silver & Gold Record

Charles Earnst, Staff Council

Sherril Potter, University Perspectives

Guests:

Chancellor DiStefano

Not attending:

Jerry Hauser, Chair

Wayne Angevine

Greg Carey

Robert Ferry

Lori Hunter

Daniel Kim

Robert Kuchta

Bill McGinley

Andrew Pleszkun

Bob Regoli

Eric Small

Simon Sparks

Ted Snow

A regular meeting of the Boulder Faculty Assembly was held on April 6, 2006 in the Fleming Law Building, Room 103. Vice Chair R L Widmann presided. The meeting convened at 4:00p.m. and adjourned at 4:40p.m.

A. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from March 2 were not available for approval.

B. Chair's Announcements

Vice Chair Widmann read Chair Jerry Hauser's announcements while waiting for quorum:

- The Provost has formed a committee to consider the establishment of a position with the office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Faculty Affairs to deal with complaints involving faculty—faculty to faculty, faculty to chair and vice versa, staff to faculty, chair to dean, and so forth. At present a consultant is visiting various faculty and administrative groups to discuss the issues on campus that might lead to complaints and/or grievances not already covered by university policy. The office would be established to address faculty concerns, would have an investigative component to find facts, and, unlike the ombuds office, would work toward agreements that would be signed by the disputing parties and set expectation for future behavior. The consultant met with the ExCom and it had a productive discussion with him;
- Today there will be a notice of motion concerning tuition benefits for dependents of faculty and staff. There is a larger consideration of this matter occurring at the System level. Hauser's intent is to become actively involved with the system discussions over the summer;

- Current plans call for relocation of the BFA office to 914, after the relocation of the President's staff to Denver. The new location will include an office for BFA chair to facilitate more efficient and effective management of BFA affairs;
- The Chancellor and Executive vice chancellor for Budget and Planning have agreed to provide temporary funds to support the work of BFA committees in 06-07;
- Gen. Estes, who chairs the Committee investigating Tenure, Reappointment and Promotion, will make his report public on 4/24. The report will be online on that date. The BFA office will share the link with the Assembly. Gen. Estes and Provost Mark Heckler of the Health Sciences Center, will visit the BFA at its May meeting to discuss the report. Because that is the date when the Assembly holds its elections, and because this report is of critical importance to the faculty, Hauser has extended the 5/4 meeting to 5:45. He hopes members are able to make adjustments to their plans so that they may participate in the full discussion;
- Jenna Langer has been appointed to the position of Executive Director of CCHE;
- Widmann read a citation for Barbara Bintliff recognizing and thanking her for representation of faculty and attention to the appropriate processes in the presidential search.

Shernick read the names of this year's Faculty Excellence Awards into the record and encouraged faculty to respond to the invitation to attend the annual awards ceremony:

Teaching

Jerry Aronson, Film Studies

Ross Corotis, Civil Engineering

Kai Larsen, Leeds School of Business

Rolf Norgaard, Program for Writing and Rhetoric

Service

Ann Carlos, Economics

R L Widmann, English

Research, Scholarly, and Creative Work

Steven M. George, Chemistry & Chemical Engineering

Mihaly Horanyi, LASP

Richard Rogers, Sociology

Douglas R. Seals, Integrative Physiology

Kassoy encouraged the faculty to make every effort to tell colleagues about the change from paper to the new electronic ballots for the spring elections. The new process will make voting easier and more secure, and the BFA is also fortunate to be able to share the expense of the software with UCSU.

C. Special Reports

Chancellor DiStefano was introduced and began with a few announcements:

- The CCHE has a new director at least until Dec 2006, Jenna Langer, who will be taking on the Executive Director position;
- Hank Brown is the single finalist for the position of president and DiStefano urged faculty to meet and discuss issues concerning funding, the legislature, and the move of the president's office to Denver with him;
- The Advisory Committee on Tenure will be coming to the BFA May 4 to talk about its recommendations but they are not deciding whether to abolish tenure; DiStefano is confident that the process we use is the right one and comparable to that of other universities as we have our tenure year in the 7th rather than the 6th year;
- In the process of hiring faculty this spring we are doing well in having the first or second top candidate to accept the position and there has been an increase in the number of women and faculty of color being hired and Garnett Tatum's office has been instrumental in this effort;
- The Faculty and administration have been working well together in shared governance, and there will be representation from the BFA on the provost search committees; a formal announcement will probably take place July 1 and as this is a national search DiStefano wants faculty to participate fully with opportunities to meet with candidates in the fall.

Levitt said faculty used to chair these committees in the past and asked why a faculty person does not chair the provost search committee. He then stated for the record that he was not happy with Dean Williams as chair of this committee. DiStefano replied that when openings occurred at the deans level he spoke with the BFA about whether faculty should chair that committee that the problem is one of staffing, and that a dean, vice or associate vice chancellor could utilize staff support from their office without burdening departments. As long as faculty represented a majority on the committee and that they were selected by the appointing authority and the BFA this would be workable, and BFA Chair Hauser and DiStefano have agreed on this point.

Kassoy asked about status of the effort to develop diversity training for students prior to attending CU and for first year students. DiStefano said there are about two or three different efforts: the first involves changes to the orientation program to include additional sessions dealing with diversity; the second is seeking to cover diversity issues through convocation; and the third involves the process of developing the University 101

course. DiStefano would like 101 have a really solid curriculum taught by instructor level faculty and that we do something on a pilot basis first to ensure we know what we are doing is working. He has asked Stump and Grant to make sure there is input from faculty and staff as the process of hiring instructors has already begun. There is a committee working with Dean Gleeson to take a look at the diversity requirement we now have and courses that are in that curriculum to ask whether there are any that could be modified to incorporate some of the issues the students wanted as an alternative to developing new core courses. As far as diversity training for faculty and administrators, he understood that there will be a pilot training for deans at the end of this semester through the provost's office. Some of this could be web-based and other training could move into departments in the fall and spring. DiStefano wants to move slowly and deliberately to ensure that what is in place is of maximum benefit to students.

Widman asked if Grant was preparing actual courses and DiStefano will ask that when syllabi become available that they be shared with the BFA. Comstock commented that she has seen some of the committee's work and was full of praise for their efforts.

Nauenberg asked about the status of the budget. DiStefano replied that as of today things are still "fluid" and the current budget request is currently asking for a 5% increase in tuition for resident students. We are looking at getting about 80% of our mandated costs, and since Porreca came to speak to the BFA in March, the mandated costs have decreased as the legislature removed the pay for performance for classified staff from mandated costs. If we receive 100% of our mandated costs and get the 5% tuition increase as requested we will still have a deficit or shortfall around \$3-4 million. The question to ask at that time will be whether we can continue to keep certain commitments or delay them for one year or use one-time funds. Faculty salaries remain the top priority with the goal of a salary increase of 1% above inflation. The request for 15 new tenure track lines in the budget may be retained and we will advertise next year. There are plans to bring in new faculty for the writing program and advising. If we go below the 5% tuition increase the deficit will increase; if we can increase our out of state students from what we have budgeted it will help the bottom line. Meeting with students in 16 cities across the nation, DiStefano and others have guaranteed students who have confirmed enrollment that their tuition as a non-resident student will not increase during their 4 year stay at CU. To attract top students the Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship was instituted which gives the top 15% out of state students a \$15,000 scholarship over four years. This year the President's Scholarship Fund was started for non-resident students which awards the top 15% for \$10,000 per year.

Kassoy asked about the possibility of adverse consequences stemming from Carl Wieman's departure from CU, and the Chancellor said it certainly hurts when you lose a Nobel laureate, but that ultimately the campus needs to look at who we are hiring and who remains on campus.

Bintliff asked about the status of the plans for residential colleges. DiStefano said a draft report is out and he has met with Avery, Stump, and Gleeson. Two recommendations will come from a finalized draft and they are that the existing Libby RAP focused on

Arts will stay as a one year program but the number of students will increase. Secondly, a Request for Proposal will go out to faculty to look at a multi-year residential program that will commence as of September, 2007. There is a proposal to renovate Arnett Hall before the Regents and this project would be completed by Fall 07. The thematic approach is as yet undecided and will be open to campus for suggestions.

Widmann thanked the chancellor for coming and asked for other questions. Singh asked to address the ACard issue again, which involves asking faculty to write a justification for every purchase. Kassoy recommended the right person needs to come explain the process to the ExCom or BFA.

D. Committee Reports

Widmann asked Secretary Kassoy to chair the meeting at this juncture. Widmann then presented the motion coming from the Bylaws Committee on wording changes. Discussion of faculty representation to the BFA will be postponed to the fall of 2006. Discussion and voting on the wording changes will take place May 4.

Widmann brought the Levitt and Beer Notice of Motion regarding scholarships for dependent children which will come forward for discussion on May 4.

Widmann then read the Academic Affairs Committee Motion on Grade Appeals before the faculty and opened the floor for discussion, crediting UGGA Representative Arwen Vidal for working on this issue. Comstock asked about students who for various reasons couldn't appeal within the period of time, and Widmann said this motion does not preclude deans looking at special circumstances. After some discussion, she asked for vote and the motion passed overwhelmingly with 3 abstentions.

Widmann reported that Wolfson had emailed her about the campus alcohol issue and specifically that the change in policy affects faculty, and told him the concern was a system issue. Wolfson stated that violations by a few persons in athletics are resulting in punishment for everyone, so Widmann asked if this concern was one the BFA wanted to pursue.

Motion to adjourn was entertained and approved.