

MINUTES

Boulder Faculty Assembly

November 3, 2005

Attending:

Jerry Hauser, Chair

R L Widmann, Vice Chair

David Kassoy, Secretary

Barbara Bintliff, Former BFA Chair

Wayne Angevine

Sedat Biringen

Greg Carey

Albert Chong

Cathy Comstock

Pamela Diggle

Don Eron

David Fagerstrom

Robert Ferry

Hardy Fredricksmeier

Lori Hunter

Eric Juenke

Samuel Junod

Daniel Kim

E. Christian Kopff

Richard Laver

Jeffrey Mitton

Rolf Norgaard

Uriel Nauenberg

Jerry Peterson

Tad Pfeffer

Kathryn Pieplow

Andrew Pleszkun

Bob Regoli

Joseph Rosse

Petger Schaberg

Ravinder Singh

Eric Small

John Cooper

Barbara Battenfield, ASC Chair

Mark Bradburn, UGGS

Mario Flores, UCSU

Chuck Earnst, Staff Council

Media:

Jeff Dodge, Silver & Gold Record

Matt Williams, Colorado Daily

Not attending:

Marty Bickman

Martin Boileau

Deane Bowers

Frances Charteris

Ruben Donato

Roger King

Robert Kuchta

Bill McGinley

Terry Sawchuk

Ted Snow

Simon Sparks

Deward Walker, At-Large Board Member

Alexey Wolfson

Guests:

President Hank Brown

The regular meeting of the Boulder Faculty Assembly was held on Thursday, November 3, 2005, in Fleming Law Building, Room 156. Chair Jerry Hauser presided. The meeting convened at 4:00p.m. and adjourned at 5:30p.m.

A. Approval of Minutes

There being no comments, corrections or changes to the October 6, 2005 minutes, the motion to approve the minutes carried.

B. Chair's Report

Chair Hauser made the following announcements:

- Leonard Dinegar, Sanjai Bhagat, Jerry Hauser, Robert Davis, Leslie Leinwand, Robert Nagel, Antonette Martinez, and Jeremy Jimenez are now members of the chancellor's search committee;
- The Chancellor has formed a group consisting of faculty and members of Student Affairs to write a white paper on the problems of alcohol abuse by students; it will be charged next week to develop a comprehensive plan
 - i. to address what the university should accomplish over the next five years to reduce the negative consequences associated with student use of alcohol;
 - ii. that should be sustainable, affordable, clear, linked to measurable outcomes and capable of generating buy-in from students, faculty, and staff members as well as interested parties which function outside the university community;
 - iii. supported by the university administration, the Boulder Faculty Assembly, and student leadership;
 - iv. to be completed by spring 06 and implemented by fall 2006;
- Department chairs attending the last Chair's Breakfast should have access to a draft document dealing with graduation rate reform which addresses the differential between in and out-of state students and will impact CU's ability to recruit and support international students;
- Discussion on the library motion brought last meeting was suspended until its fiscal implications are reviewed by the BFA Budget & Planning Committee and Porreca's office will provide a cost analysis.

C. Committee Reports

The Chair yielded the floor to Bintliff for a discussion on presidential qualifications.

Bintliff is the only Boulder campus faculty representative on the presidential search committee which is proceeding until the Regents direct otherwise. She solicited ideas from faculty as to the qualifications and credentials the next president should have and referred to the distributed copy of qualifications prepared by the Regents.

The faculty suggested a president should have all or most of the following qualities:

1. works effectively with board of regents
2. fund raising
3. deals with legislature, CCHE

4. commitment to scholarship (teaching, research)
5. understanding and familiarity with faculty culture; special relationship with university
6. same with legislative culture
7. backbone ; strength; ability to tell the university's story forcefully and effectively; trust
8. relate to constituencies in state (articulation)
9. good communication skills
10. outreach strategies
11. an earned doctorate is a bonus
12. sense of mission and where they want to take the institution (can hire the strategists) world view in our interests beneficial to university
13. wit and good humor
14. someone we can respect and trust
15. champion for diversity (gender, cultural, ethnic, intellectual, disability)
16. champion for excellence

Bintliff asked that additional comments be communicated to her by Friday, November 4.

Hauser has received emails regarding the integrity of conducting a presidential search and in order to provide Bintliff with a sense of the house, conducted a straw vote on the following question: would faculty be willing to suspend the presidential search and retain Hank Brown as president? Seven faculty indicated they would be willing to call off the search; twenty-one indicated they were opposed to suspending the search.

Intercollegiate Athletic Committee

Carey reviewed the resolution to be brought forward for vote today and added Bintliff's friendly amendment to take out the word "appropriate" in the first paragraph. The Chair called the question and the resolution carried.

Academic Affairs Committee

Widmann presented the argument for moving fall break to Thanksgiving week and a discussion ensued. Students may prefer to keep fall break where it currently resides in October. Peterson asked if policy would take one more day from the academic calendar but Widmann assured him that was not the case. Schaberg said students voted for the shift in dates but Comstock said student government is not in favor of the move. Bittenfield said she did not approve of losing momentum two weeks before the end of fall by moving fall break to Thanksgiving week. Bintliff reported that many parents of out-of-state students complained about the expense of having two breaks in fall semester, when students wanted to come home twice. Most of these parents preferred a single, longer break.

Hauser called the question and described the resolution as a show of support or absence of support for the proposed calendar change, the province of the provost. Nineteen faculty were in favor of moving fall break to Thanksgiving week, and nine were opposed to the change. There were 2 abstentions. The resolution carried.

Hauser announced that after further consultation with Parliamentarian Bintliff, it was decided that the simplest way to act on the issue of course repetition was to have a main motion for the Academic Affairs Committee. The Committee is working on a motion to be presented as a Notice of motion at the December meeting.

Bintliff strongly urged faculty to participate in commencement exercises in December.

D. Special Reports

President Hank Brown thanked the faculty for their support for Referendum C and said that if it hadn't passed Colorado would be last in the nation in terms of financial support for education. Funding for higher education has plummeted from 26 percent of the state's budget to 9.6 percent of the state's budget, but with the passage of Referendum C citizens ensured a reasonable chance at securing funding from the state for education.

Schaberg asked what faculty could do to be supportive and proactive. Brown said the relationship with Colorado citizens needs attention and the university and its faculty needs to make a stronger case for higher education with the public and help them understand the value of what we do. Faculty Council Chair Rod Muth is putting together a presentation to describe the breadth of faculty responsibilities to create better understanding of what we do. Building a stronger connection with legislators and the CCHE and making good comparisons between CU and other institutions across the country to ensure that we are staffed in a comparable manner is also critical. Brown has contacted the JBC and has walked them through available statistics to make a more rational allocation of money and has done the same with the CCHE. Both organizations have agreed to establish a task force to look at his concerns. The President is also working to repair relations with CCHE.

Brown proposed

- developing initiatives to take to the legislature, including a look at the severance tax and converting it to a rainy day fund for higher ed as a fee for services which would ensure higher ed is covered if another recession hits;
- banding Colorado's colleges and universities together to ask for monies taken away to prevent revenue going to other state projects;
- developing programs to connect us to Colorado's citizens.

Brown has heard suggestions that CU keep the current office for the president on the Boulder campus and keep CU-Boulder as the designated flagship. As the President spends one half of his time in Denver, it seems logical to retain 80 percent of his system staff at CU Boulder and open a similar office in Denver and staff it with fewer people.

This office would not be located on any campus. Brown would continue to conduct office hours on the Boulder campus.

Fredricksmeier voiced concern that the press misrepresents faculty salaries, and Brown said the university does respond to these misrepresentations but these responses are not reported in the headlines. He added that it is easy to come up with information and peer references can give you all this and the reality is that we compare very favorably with other institutions of higher ed and no one can accuse our faculty of being overpaid by comparison. The real challenge is to get legislators to take the time to look at the facts available.

Comstock asked for ideas to improve outreach and Brown suggested connecting with K-12 schools to inform them about the resources CU-Boulder has. He also believes that there is a better way of recognizing and giving credit to faculty for the outreach they do for credit on their service obligation. Comstock asked for ways in which outreach could become part of the merit system and Brown offered to follow up on that question.

Mitton described the attrition rate among professors in his department which has lost one of every five faculty since its last program review due to better salary offers elsewhere.

His concern is that his department and others on campus cannot remain competitive and are losing their best faculty. He added that it is a real possibility that CU may have to model itself on the University of Virginia, which gets a trivial amount of funding from the state and as a result controls their own income. Brown replied CU has "a natural advantage" and should strive to attract the best students, and that our goal should be focused on being not only an excellent state university but believes our potential could be to be one of the great universities of the world.

Nauenberg expressed concern that the faculty should be the body adjudicating curriculum decisions but are consistently undermined by the Regents or the CCHE. Brown said the job of the Regents is to set broad policy for campus but they should not dictate what courses are taught, the primary responsibility of the faculty. As a result of Representative King's bill which pertains to transferability of courses, the state is now involved in everything we do with core curriculum. The bill also mandates that the CCHE has regulatory powers in this area and involves the Regents' approval. While this is not a good idea for our core curriculum to necessarily accept the curriculum of other

institutions, we should not be arbitrary or put up barriers to transfer students but rather he would expect our standards should be higher and we should be more demanding than other institutions in the state.

Chair Hauser thanked President Brown for attending the meeting.

E. New business

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned.