

Boulder Faculty Assembly Minutes

September 1, 2005

Attending:

Jerry Hauser, Chair
R L Widmann, Vice Chair
David Kassoy, Secretary
Stein Sture, At-Large Board Member
Deward Walker, At-Large Board Member
Barbara Bintliff, Former BFA Chair
Wayne Angevine
Marty Bickman
Sedat Biringen
Martin Boileau
Deane Bowers
Greg Carey
Albert Chong
Pamela Diggle
Don Eron
David Fagerstrom
Robert Ferry
Hardy Fredricksmeier
Lori Hunter
Samuel Junod
Daniel Kim
Roger King
E. Christian Kopff
Robert Kuchta
Richard Laver
Rolf Norgaard
Jerry Peterson
Tad Pfeffer
Petger Schaberg
Ravinder Singh
Simon Sparks
Alexey Wolfson
John Cooper
David Hill
Robert Tubbs, ASC Rep
Mark Bradburn, UGGS

Media:
Jeff Dodge, Silver & Gold Record

Not attending:

Frances Charteris
Cathy Comstock
William Kunzweiler
Bill McGinley
Kathryn Pieplow
Andrew Pleszkun
Bob Regoli
Terry Sawchuk
Eric Small
Ted Snow

Guests:

Mike Bohn, Athletic Director
Jeff Cheek
Fred Pampel

A meeting of the Boulder Faculty Assembly was held on Thursday, September 1, 2005, Fleming Room 156. Chair Jerry Hauser presided. The meeting convened at 4:00p.m. and adjourned at 5:30p.m.

A. Approval of Minutes

Carey moved that the Minutes from the May 5, 2005 BFA meeting were approved and Widmann seconded. There being no further comments, corrections or changes to the minutes, the motion to approve the minutes carried.

B. Chair's Announcements

Chair Hauser made the following announcements:

- Brown visited the Executive Committee on August 29. Hauser reviewed the topics the president covered including the discussion on Referenda C and D.
- The Intercollegiate Athletics Board going forward with its work and the BFA report is in place as of this summer.
- Part 4 of the Faculty Professional Conduct is with the Council of Deans and the final wording should be finalized by the end of September.
- As a result of incidents last fall the faculty took the initiative to compose a report on student alcohol abuse and how it is affecting their academic performance. The Executive Committee has authorized Hauser as Chair to discuss next steps with Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Ron Stump. The white paper was approved

and will be brought to the next Chancellor's Executive Committee meeting September 14.

- CU is going to go through changes with its Student Information System (SIS) as in 9 years the current system will lose all support and we won't be able to develop a new system on our own by that time.
- There is an early college initiative coming from the Graduate School and Hauser promised to keep faculty informed.
- Last year there was a debate about course forgiveness and whether to move or discontinue fall break; there is now a committee headed by Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Kaempfer to discuss both issues.
- The Chair articulated his concern about BFA attendance and the staffing of committees, and he asked the Bylaws Committee to reconsider the way in which representatives are chosen to represent the units on campus. He added hopes for an open discussion to take place regarding representation on campus with the goal that every department will have a voice in faculty governance.
- Pat Dingle was appointed to special committee devoted to faculty and staff bringing children into workplace as hazardous or unsafe conditions can exist. A draft set of regulations or guidelines is the first order of business and Hauser promised to keep the faculty informed.
- There are vacancies on the BCPC Committee and Hauser nominated Gary Gaile, a geographer, for a seat.

- The Chair asked faculty for their feedback on the issue of refreshments as in order to save money and hold down costs food will no longer be provided at meetings.
- Hauser reviewed the new rules on purchasing alcohol for campus functions.

C. Chair's Report

On Tuesday, August 30, the BFA cosponsored the annual faculty breakfast. Chair Hauser reviewed the opening remarks he made to the faculty which included regarding the new academic year as an opportunity for renewal and engagement and promoting the BFA as a full partner in development of university policy. He closed by expressing his

desire to serve the BFA as an accurate spokesperson and he asked the faculty for help and their support and thanked everyone for their commitment to CU and willingness to serve.

D. Special Reports

Athletic Director Mike Bohn arrived and Hauser introduced him and reminded the assembly of two pizza dates which would be additional opportunities for faculty to ask questions about the athletic department.

Bohn thanked Hauser for the opportunity to speak with the assembly. As athletic director he has made progress and acknowledges there is still a lot of work to do to rebuild relationships across the campus. Today a contract with Nike was signed and for the first

time intramurals, club teams and club activities are included and will benefit from the contract. The role of the faculty in athletics is also changing as they are involved in every new hire process. Athletics continues to bring diverse students to campus and the thoughts faculty hold on this concern are crucial, and faculty feedback as leaders on campus is essential for the success of the program. Bohn invited everyone to come to athletic events and support the university and extended the invitation to two pizza events to discuss problems and concerns.

Hunter asked about mechanisms in place for dialogue to make suggestions happen and Bohn replied that he hopes everyone would be willing to call him personally with specific questions. He discourages having coaches have direct contact with faculty but would allow it. Hunter recommended making a list of communication routes available to faculty for communicating directly with resources in athletic and Bohn suggested an organization chart.

The faculty discussed a few concerns with Bohn, namely:

- Norgaard said the faculty discount for tickets is not sufficient to bring faculty into stadium. Bohn replied that he would love to bring faculty into the stadiums for events and has been frustrated with the state policy on ticket discounts.
- Peterson said we would like to impress donors who use sky boxes so to help us connect with those people let faculty talk with them as it could be beneficial to hear about faculty and for faculty to hear about concerns donors have. Bohn thanked him for that idea.
- Currently there is nothing visible on the walls in the Coors Events concourse area. Bintliff recommended a Faculty Hall of Fame and Chong asked whether student art could be placed there. Bohn replied that that might work and there is a lot of blank wall space available.
- Fredrickmeyer asked about the recent Nike contract; in particular, a number of American universities have disassociated themselves from Nike sponsorship due to the company's reputation as a sweatshop employer. Bohn said in the thirty minute session they had with Nike they covered the worker situation and he and his staff were very pleased with Nike's efforts to remedy the sweatshop conditions of their workers.

There being no further questions, Hauser thanked Bohn for taking the time to speak with the faculty.

The Chair introduced Jeff Cheek from the System office who reviewed the bidding process and possibility of CU becoming affiliated with the Los Alamos National Laboratory. He passed out a list of other universities affiliated with project all of which gain access to lab resources and expertise. If Lockheed Martin and the University of Texas do not win the bid that will end CU's interest. Cheek then Invited Fred Pampel to speak about what this means specifically for the Boulder campus.

Pampel said the affiliation could result in a source of badly needed funds for CU and it would also be a chance for the university to have an influence on the basic science that goes on at Los Alamos. Initially there was skepticism that the downside could outweigh benefits and some chairs and directors on campus felt any association with Los Alamos would be a bad idea given the negative publicity CU has endured lately. Others thought that working with Los Alamos would be fine but that we wouldn't gain that much from the partnership. Still others felt this could be an opportunity for some units on campus to "move up a notch" in their research agenda, the idea being NSF is winding down in their funding as is the NIH, and federal sources for research are diminishing, so alternatives deserved exploration. It was decided to go ahead with some kind of relationship with Los Alamos if the possibilities had three characteristics: (1) it will involve individual researchers or faculty as individuals so that the university would not run the program; (2) there would be an entity that would be research oriented and focused on basic science separate from the Los Alamos lab itself but funded by Los Alamos as a kind of consortium; and (3) we could make certain research would be conducted consistent with our policies on free inquiry, e.g., we would not become involved in classified or weapons research. Pampel said all three conditions were met and he read off examples of specific research that could be conducted if the collaboration was made possible: the origin of black holes, ice modeling, and semiconductors.

Cooper asked if the new laws restricting foreign graduate students would prevent our Muslim students from working on these kinds of projects. Pampel answered that OCG has made every effort to delete ITAR (International Traffic in Arms Regulation) language to allow foreign nationals to contribute to the research. Biringen asked about the mechanism used to fund the collaboration and Cheek replied that it is still being worked out and since they are a non-profit the fee for the management is limited to \$8 million a year. Pampel clarified that the idea is not a money train in any sense of the word. Cheek added that it would not be worth pursuing if it did not increase the resources available to faculty. Sture added that the idea is to make a kind of consortium campus outside the university and create more accessibility "outside the fence" and Cheek agreed with this description. Bintliff asked whether the structure would similar to that of UCAR or NCAR and Pampel replied that that was a perfect comparison. Hunter said faculty affiliates would take on burdens as well as opportunities with RFP's, etc. and Cheek agreed that this would necessarily be the case.

Hauser thanked the visitors for coming.

E. Old Business

The Motion from Academic Affairs Committee on the definition of the undergraduate credit hour was reintroduced. Committee Chair Widmann said changes had been proposed at the May 5, 2005 BFA meeting and she described the process the committee used to revise the definition. She then read the text of the new definition and presented it to the assembly for approval. As the motion comes from committee it needed no second, so the floor was opened for discussion. Carey spoke on behalf of Hunter and presented her friendly amendment which consisted of a request to add a qualification to the initial

sentence such as “on average” to avoid student confusion. Widmann said while the comments were appreciated, the friendly amendment duplicates the current wording and the current definition is sufficient. After further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was adopted without dissent. A copy of the motion will be sent to Provost Avery, Vice Chancellor Stump, and the Chancellor.

The next regular meeting of the Boulder Faculty Assembly will be on Thursday, October 6, 2005 from 4:00 to 5:30 in the Fleming Law Building, Room 156.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned.