

MINUTES

Executive Committee Meeting
Boulder Faculty Assembly
April 16, 2007

Chair Jerry Hauser called the meeting to order at 3:30.

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of April 2, 2007 to be approved at the April 30, 2007 meeting.

B. Chair's Report

There were no announcements.

C. Committee Report

Student Affairs Committee – Elizabeth Dunn, Chair
Chair Hauser introduced new Student Affairs Committee Chair Dunn and welcomed her to the BFA. Hauser stated that Dunn will give the Student Affairs Committee response to the Alcohol White Paper. Her approach, that she hopes the BFA will adopt, is to mentor and support students as they move through the process of becoming adults. She is in support of the report, but states it needs to be clarified or amended to make a strong statement. She noted four areas to address: 1) elements the BFA should endorse; 2) a list of queries and concerns; 3) objections; and, 4) suggested additions or further discussions. She stated the elements to endorse include the continuation of the Matter of Degree program. We need to send a strong signal that we support the establishment of spring semester rush for fraternities and sororities. This has been an ongoing battle waged by Ron Stump and our support would be invaluable. We should support publicly CU's effort to reach out to parents on the topic of alcohol. We need to applaud loudly some of the programs that have been started in the last three or four years to aid students with problematic drinking behavior. She hopes, also, that we'll endorse CU's effort to lobby the legislature for laws for keg tagging. Dunn noted the following queries and concerns. 1) The report needs to be more direct and clearer on what is being done on campus. A more accurate accounting of campus activity on this topic would give us a better idea of where we stand in terms of planning. 2) She is concerned about an accurate way to gauge effectiveness of what we are doing. There needs to be a planning process for ongoing quantitative and qualitative analysis of alcohol mitigation, and a central clearing house for this data, as well as, an annual report on our improvement. 3) She is concerned that although there are agreements to share information with other agencies, students are being diverted from punishment through the municipal courts to the University. 4) She is concerned that most initiatives are student initiated and we don't have any way to ensure that these initiatives are sustainable. Dunn noted the Committee has also suggested that we develop comprehensive strategies that connect a shift of CU's alcohol

culture to its reemphasis on academic rigor. Dunn then spoke about the job description of the new AMOD coordinator, stating the job needs a significant program development component so programs are emanating from the office with more frequency and intensity.

Dunn continued about objections raised about the report. She suggested the BFA voice two strong objections to the White Paper's recommendation, one being for a research oriented faculty, tenure-track line focused on alcohol abuse. It is her opinion that would not have an immediate effect, and that it is not clear how the enormous service component of that line would be worked into a faculty member's job description. She suggests instead that it become a public health line attached to Wardenburg, so that it could be funded exclusive on alcohol related programming and implementation rather than academic research. She stated a second objection is the White Paper suggested we no longer use "binge" drinking as a measurement, but instead use a more diffuse group of measures. We can't tell the magnitude of student over-consumption unless we are measuring student over consumption of alcohol. She also suggests we open a conversation on faculty's role in addressing this problem. This would include scheduling courses on Friday and Monday mornings. She also suggests banning scheduling recitation schedules for large courses on Friday unless attendance is mandatory. We should support more training for faculty on how syllabus design can reduce the excessive and frequent alcohol use. By having an early mid-term, many freshmen fail the first mid-term due to drinking instead of studying. She noted that frequent and early feedback can reduce alcohol use. She also strongly suggests we support efforts to improve academic rigor. The highest rate of binge drinking is among freshmen, the lowest is among seniors. She suggests we support the CU 101, she noted problems with scheduling and resources issues, so suggests exploring offering a course that is self-funded through housing. She noted that we need to commit to offering students alcohol education early and often. She noted we should also encourage the University to support the city of Boulder initiatives, including reevaluation of the 500 foot rule, support them in their appeal over control of liquor licensing, and support ongoing attempts to organize and finance multi-use, non-alcohol focus on redevelopment on the "hill."

Chair asked members if they wished to continue to give feedback to Dunn and have it go as a report to the Assembly in May, or decide to give feedback to Elizabeth, and then he, Dunn and Provost DiStefano could have a conversation. Hauser noted the report is consonant with the orders we developed and negotiated with Stump and the Provost, and from which we should not back off. This report is in response to the White Paper in terms of these elements, and the desire to see these things clarified or strengthened. Hauser said we could adopt Pfeffer's motion to adopt in principal, make the edits and then transmit that. Bintliff stated that would be the proper way to

go, to go forward with a proposal we have already approved. The motion to adopt in principal was moved and seconded.

The Executive Committee went into executive session for Administrator Appraisal review.