

## MINUTES

Executive Committee Meeting  
Boulder Faculty Assembly  
March 12, 2007

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

The minutes of February 26, 2007 were accepted as distributed.

Chair's Report:

**Discussion Topic: Faculty Senate By-laws revision.**

- The Chair reiterated the revision of the By-laws of the Faculty Senate and the previous discussion on a grievance process. The next phase deals with actions taken against a faculty member that the member disagrees with and for which she or he wishes to file a grievance. The committee has identified five steps that might be parts of an action: reprimand, censure, sanction, suspension, and dismissal for cause.

Hauser noted there have been concerns that P&T should be handled at each university in the CU system, that everything goes to P&T, and that there is no bracket defining at which step one can't file for a formal P&T review. Another issue is that our statement about faculty rights and responsibilities does not status as a campus policy. Hauser stated the need for a statement that we can put into place as the campus grievance policy on unprofessional conduct, and a bracketing designation indicating the level at which a final determination shall be made.

Hauser noted that in Part II of the *Professional Rights and Duties of Faculty Members* there is a statement of professional responsibilities, ethical principals and faculty conduct with Expected Conduct and Unacceptable Conduct under each category. Deward Walker suggested the grievance policy statement could say that, "Unprofessional Conduct will consist of violation of the ethical code of the faculty which includes \_\_\_\_\_", then reference the section. Discussion followed on defining ethical behavior and related consequences. Bintliff noted the need to focus on professional behavior, not activities outside the university. Hauser agreed that Part II is clear and that there is no need to change it. If we can point at that as acceptable and unacceptable conduct, then the germane question for dealing with faculty misconduct is process. Rosse noted that without a procedure, we would be inviting control from outside. Hauser stated that if we reach an agreement that we've already specified are the principles we stand for, violation of them will count as misconduct. Comstock stated that it seems that ethical behavior really applies to what we do at the university. Rosse stated the problem is that we are not clear about that and asked if there is a statement that says a faculty

does not speak for the university. Bintliff responded that there is a statement for that in the Regents rules. Hauser asked if we want to set boundaries on the kinds of things that stop at the office of the dean or provost and kind of things that go to the chancellor or president. Discussion centered on a grievance procedure involving the faculty and a policy the Chancellor would support, and confining some P&T issues to campus.

- **Discussion Topic: CU 101**

Document on CU 101 from A&S Council was distributed. Nauenberg expressed concern that this course has not received the kind of scrutiny that other courses get. Bintliff thought the genesis of CU101 was a number of reformations from several bodies that CU needs to counter freshman use of alcohol. Buttenfield stated that another source was the hate crime and the students' insistence on diversity training. It is being promoted to go into the core and carry credit and there is no clear articulation of the fit into A&S curriculum. Nauenberg said he was interested in having as much faculty input as possible to make it exciting. Levitt said he would like to endorse the A&S Council document. Discussion followed about the course being required. Buttenfield said the impasse would be if no college of school issued academic credit, and administration says it is a requirement. Hauser stated he would discuss it with the Provost. Endorsement of the document was passed.

- **Discussion Topic: Comparative Literature**

Levitt stated that 7-8 years ago graduate students were asked about the Comparative Literature program and 80% were unhappy. The principle argument was whether faculty rostered in Comp. Lit. had to have a least two languages. David Ferris was appointed chair, he has made numerous changes, and is in his second year of running the program. Now the graduate students say they loved the program. The program was given an FTE and told to build the program. At some point the FTE was withdrawn and it was decided to dissolve the program. Levitt voiced concern that a university should have a comparative literature program and he noted there is a long history of either support it or discontinue it. Discussion followed regarding process for dissolving a program. Bintliff suggested asking the Provost to clarify the recommendation and the process that is used to consider this recommendation. Kopff, agreed saying we need a clear rationale. Hauser stated he would discuss it with the Provost.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.