

Executive Committee Meeting

Monday, August 29, 2005

The chair reminded the committee of the faculty breakfast on Tuesday, August 30 at 7:30a.m. in the Mary Rippon Theatre, and two pizza lunch dates with Athletic Director Mike Bohn set for Wednesday, Sept 7 and Thursday, September 15 in the Dal Ward Varsity Room from 11:30 to 1:30p.m. A task force was recently assembled to devise policies for child care in the workplace and there is another task force looking into course repetition and the question of fall break. There was discussion over whether emeritus faculty qualified for faculty excellence service awards and if the BFA could sponsor instructor and staff excellence awards.

Hauser welcomed President Brown, Chancellor DiStefano, and VP for Academic Affairs Dahlin and gave an overview of BFA organization and accomplishments. Brown discussed the serious budget implications for higher education if Referendum C is not approved by the voters in November, including the possibility of privatizing the university, and emphasized the need for the university to reach out to the community and create a new connection with Coloradans. Each chancellor is being asked to look at their programs and faculty should be involved, with the quality of our institution remaining the number one priority. Working to improve the less than ideal relationship with state government is also high on Brown's list of objectives, and he is focusing on opening communication with the legislature and the CCHE and the JBC staff. He praised the faculty for initiating the work on the question of tenure and said that this will promote understanding of the tenure process. Brown said he believes that faculty already understand that we have an enormous challenge ahead of us in terms of reconnecting with legislators and the public at large. It was recommended that the president return to give faculty a better sense of the budget model that will drive the university two and three years from now.

The revised definition of an undergraduate credit hour was reviewed and there was no objection to placing it on the agenda for the Sept 1 Assembly meeting. A friendly amendment that "an undergraduate student" replace "the undergraduate students" was approved.

Hauser reported that the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs initiative on alcohol and the Elizabeth Dunn report reviewed by the BFA were not that different and said we could discuss the report point by point or he could, with the permission of the Executive Committee, meet with Stump and other members of the administration to create more substantive faculty participation with the issue and put into place a way for faculty to have concrete and serious participation in the process. It was so moved and approved.