MINUTES
Executive Committee, Boulder Faculty Assembly
July 15, 2013

Attending
Paul Chinowsky, Chair
Carmen Grace, Secretary
Horst Mewes, Academic Affairs Committee Chair
Rolf Norgaard, Instructor-Track Co-Chair
Adam Norris, Instructor-Track Co-Chair
Greg Carey, Administrator Appraisal Representative
Asuncion Horno-Delgado, Faculty Compensation & Benefits Co-Chair
Jin-Hyuk Kim, Libraries Chair
Sanjai Bhagat, Administrator Appraisal Chair
Karen Ramirez, Admin. Services & Tech. Chair
Joe Jupille, Intercollegiate Athletics Chair
Karen Ramirez, Admin. Services & Tech. Chair
Joe Jupille, Intercollegiate Athletics Chair

Not Attending
Bob Ferry, Executive Committee Member at Large
Peggy Jobe, Executive Committee Member at Large
Mike Klymkowsky, BFA Vice-Chair
Jerry Rudy, Budget and Planning Chair
Ruth Ellen Kocher, Diversity Committee Co-Chair
Ted Stark, Faculty Affairs Chair
Jerry Peterson, Former BFA Chair
Joey Hubbard, UGGS President
Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator

The Boulder Faculty Assembly Executive Committee held a regular meeting on Monday, July 15th, 2013 in the University Club Lounge, room 106. BFA Chair Paul Chinowsky presided. The meeting convened at 4:00 and adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

I. Chair’s Report

a. Agendas – Today’s agenda does not have specific times listed, because the BFA Executive Committee will operate a little differently this year. The agenda will allow for more discussion but with no set times unless they are required to, for example, accommodate a guest speaker.

b. Meeting Schedule – The Committee’s meeting schedule will also be somewhat different. There will be discussion about that towards the end of today’s agenda.

c. Standing Committees’ Relationship to the Executive Committee – The BFA Chair will meet one-on-one with each Committee Chair in the coming weeks. The Chair will also attend at least one committee meeting each semester.

II. Discussion – Athletic Director Search Committee

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Chair Joe Jupille reported that he is a member of the UCB Athletics Director Search Committee. Other members include NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative David Clough, Acting Athletics Director Ceal Barry (Chair), CU Foundation Representative Kurt Goldbrandt, Alumnus Doug Looney, and a Student Athlete.

Jupille requested discussion on the search for a new Athletics Director. Discussion followed.

Chinowsky requested that the new director be someone who is willing to interact regularly with the Boulder Faculty Assembly.
III. Update on Development of BFA initiatives and Working Groups

Chinowsky reported on progress in several of the BFA’s new initiatives. Those beginning right away are:

- The Freshman Experience
- BFA Leadership Institute
- Monthly BFA Town Halls
- BFA Bridge Groups
- Analysis of New Teaching Technologies.

Freshman Experience

- In this program, a set of faculty members would commit to meeting at least once per month for breakfast or lunch with a set group of freshmen, no more than 15. The faculty participants would become a point of contact for their set of freshmen for the first year and potentially for the entirety of their time at CU.
- The program will help address retention issues.
- 20 BFA members have signed on. We hope to get 20 more general faculty involved, from across Campus.
- The first year of the program will be a pilot program.
- Faculty participants will hold an organizational meeting tomorrow at 9:00 am in the U-Club. Questions to be addressed include how student participants will be selected.

Discussion followed, including these points and suggestions:

- Students who are already in a Residential Academic Program may already have the kind of faculty involvement that the BFA’s program is designed to provide. About 50% of Freshmen are involved in RAPs.
- The faculty members need not be academic mentors to the students.
- It was suggested that students be randomly selected to participate, to make the outcome easier to interpret.

BFA Leadership Institute

- This program is modeled on UCB’s Emerging Leaders Program (ELP), which develops selected faculty and staff on an invitation basis. Participants are chosen based on who shows an interest in leadership, and are nominated by Deans and Department Chairs.
- The Campus could benefit from a similar system from a governance perspective. For example its incoming committee chairs often have little context or orientation. The BFA Leadership Institute is designed to groom faculty to become governance leaders.
- The inaugural class of the Institute will be Associate-level Tenure-Track faculty and Senior Instructors, nominated by peers. So far the inaugural class includes ten people.
- Senior administrators are very interested in being a part of the Institute. Several have volunteered to lead sessions about their areas of responsibility.
- The program will involve several separate sessions spread out over the course of an academic year.
Chinowsky requested ideas about topics for sessions, and nominations of additional participants. Discussion followed.

**Monthly BFA Town Halls**

- This year the BFA will co-host, with the Provost, Town Hall meetings on specific issues each month. These will be open to the Campus, and will feature a 10 minute intro on a selected topic, followed by discussion.
- Concerns include how to ensure a constructive tone to the events, and how to involve young faculty and new faculty.

Chinowsky requested input and discussion on possible topics for the program. Discussion followed.

**BFA Bridge Groups –**

- Bridge Groups are small, informal discussion groups that will meet with administration representatives or others, to discuss issues and keep lines of communication open. The Groups will meet monthly for breakfast or lunch.

**AAU Grant on Stem Education**

- The BFA has been asked to participate in an AAU grant, seeking improved methods for STEM education on an institutional level. The BFA is to assist in a part of the grant meant to develop more helpful feedback to faculty, to increase faculty involvement with new teaching ideas. A group of BFA members will convene to work with Noah Finkelstein, Director of UCB’s Center for STEM Learning. [Link to CU Boulder News Release: http://preview.tinyurl.com/ktlc49h.]

**Review New Teaching Technologies**

- BFA members who signed on to this group will begin to convene soon.
- The Provost is currently planning a campus-level committee on the subject of MOOCs.

Chinowsky requested discussion on whether the BFA should pursue its own, independent committee to review and analyze MOOCs, or fold the two groups together into a single campus committee.

Discussion followed. It was agreed that the Campus needs to have an independent faculty voice on the subject of MOOCs, that Campus committees should not be composed solely of people who are proponents of MOOCs, and that BFA should also provide nominees for the Provost’s Committee.

**IV. Discussion – Executive Committee Procedural Matters**
Chinowsky facilitated discussion on:

- the BFA Executive Committee meeting schedule for next year;
- the Executive Committee’s oversight role in the BFA’s new initiatives; and
- BFA support for the Chancellor’s Commencement Breakfasts.

The Committee plans to meet weekly (every Monday at 4:00), with the option to cancel scheduled meetings as needed.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be August 12th.

V. Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator