Boulder Faculty Assembly
Executive Committee Meeting
September 22, 2014

Attending:
Paul Chinowsky, Chair                              John Lurquin, UGGS President
Bob Ferry, Vice Chair                             Horst Mewes, Political Science
Philip Chang, Music                               Laura Michaelson, UGGS Executive VP
Greg Carey, Psychology                            Adam Norris, Applied Mathematics
Monika Fleshner, Integrative Physiology           Jerry Peterson, Physics
Peggy Jobe, Libraries                             Paul Voakes, Journalism
Joe Jupille, Political Science                    Jeff Weiss, Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences
William Kaempfer, Associate Vice Chancellor       Carrie Olson, BFA Assistant
Catherine Labio, Arts & Science Chair

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by Paul Chinowsky.

Faculty PAC-12 Governance – Jerry Peterson
Need to determine if we want to remain active in this group.
  • Last time Peggy attended, they were having a problem deciding on their direction and there has been a lack of leadership.
    o Paul Chinowsky, Chair, will send out and email containing a straw poll to vote on this matter

“Fresh Start” Campus Possible Initiative – Paul Chinowsky
This is a possible initiative that addresses freshmen retention. There is a segment of freshmen who leave because of their grades. Some universities have an academic program where you can start over by wiping your grades from your GPA and start over. The start-over may or may not be on the student’s transcript. Admissions doesn’t want to go any further until they know if faculty is behind the program.

Thoughts:
  • System in some courses where a student could petition to take it as a pass/fail
  • We need data to make the decision on whether or not it’s a good idea

Academic Freedom/Climate Meetings – Paul Chinowsky
Concerns about the first session:
  • The first session started out okay but then went downhill and never recovered
  • Concerned about the next meeting if this is the track will be taken.

Comments:
  • How can we get a more diverse audience?
  • What do the students really want to hear?
  • We could advertise on the UGGS or CUSG website more than a week in advance
  • The more broad the topic or question the easier it is to move off-topic
  • Advertise in advance for topics under the theme umbrella and nominate panel participants
  • One of the untapped resources is staff – it would be good to get staff involved
  • We might bring in an outside speaker who can speak on a particular issue
  • Could move the next one from October to November and then December for the third one
If we’re going to postpone, the BFA should create an ad-hoc committee now to work on the November meeting which will be administered by the BFA

- Need three members who would like to be involved with an ad-hoc committee on this issue.
  - No volunteers – Greg Carey will let Paul know after Thursday
- Have Valerie Simons, new Title IX Director, speak

Monika Fleshner made a motion to skip the October BFA session and move it to November. The motion was seconded by Horst Mewes. This was unanimously passed with two who abstained. 2 abstains and the remainder in favor. Paul Chinowsky will send an email to Jeff Cox.

**Committee Updates**

**Administrator Appraisal Committee** – Greg Carey

Greg Carey brought forth a nomination for Kai Larsen, School of Business, to be appointed as an Other Units Rep to the Administrator Appraisal Committee. Peggy Jobe seconded. The motion was passed unanimously with one vote abstaining. Jerry Peterson stated that he will be a member of the Executive Committee but will not be a voting member for this motion.

**Intercollegiate Athletics Committee** – Joe Jupille

We are having a meeting on Wednesday. Report will be given next week.

**Budget Committee** – Monika Fleshner

Steve Thweatt introduced a potentially exciting push by upward administration to evaluate our facilities and buildings. Currently, we operate in and put forward a list of suggestions on how to efficiently use our buildings. The primary goal is to use our facilities more efficiently and avoid building any more academic buildings. During the next week there will be a faculty survey to determine space usage given by our outside advising company, Huron. Encourage your fellow colleagues to not ignore the survey because their answers will have an impact on future usage.

**Committee Population** – Paul Chinowsky

Currently there are five committees that do not have enough people to have a quorum and are now inactive. Out of the 13 committees, only 1 is fully staffed, 3 are in good shape, and several are barely over quorum. This is troubling because we cannot do business in this situation.

The bylaws need to be fixed as they state that only two members of the assembly can be on a committee with the exception of Libraries and Diversity but it is communicated to the general assembly that everyone needs to be on a committee. We currently have seven faculty who are on committees that should not be. Do we want to rewrite the bylaws to address this?

In order to repopulate the committees, the bylaws state that we need to have an election. Holding an election to do this will take a couple months in order to get everything together. Should we let the committees set idle which means that they can meet but cannot do business? Or, as the appointing authority, should the Executive Committee appoint people to committees for the academic year until the spring when we have the next regular election? If we choose this option, how do we want to proceed? We have to be as fair as possible; it has to be a thoughtful process of getting people to want to serve. This would give us a rare opportunity to get people to give the BFA a try for a year and it would elevate the status of the BFA in the minds of others.
Comments:

- What would happen if we got rid of the rule that only two from the assembly can sit on any one committee?
  - They might get too ingrown with the same people
- We could put people on the BFA differently and not necessarily as representatives of a department
- We could appoint people from the general assembly for this academic year
- Is there a discussion that we could have to re-evaluate these committees?
  - Yes, we have been discussing the reorganization of the committees over the summer
- We could appoint members from the general assembly and then bring in additional people to reach the required numbers.
- Should the ACS and BFA bylaws be more in sync to an extent that is possible?
- Should we allow, in the interim, BFA reps to be able to serve on more than one committee?
  - Not required in our bylaws but it is expected
- How do we find the right people for the committees?
- We have so many committees, we do not have a big enough pool to get the diversity needed
- To have none-BFA members on committees has been a way of recruiting more people into the BFA
- How would we recruit those who are not BFA members?
  - Needs to be a thoughtful consideration, send an official letter inviting them, then nominate those who respond through the Executive Committee, and then vote
- Rather than have a rule that every member be on a committee, it should be that every member has to nominate somebody
- We could consider the spring BFA award winners and the past winners as a pool of candidates
  - Also people who recently got tenure
  - Nice to have people that have a broad view of the campus
  - Opportunity to gain a fresh perspective and diff viewpoints

Next steps: by the next meeting, work on a tentative solution on how we are going to proceed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm by Paul Chinowsky.

Submitted by Carrie Olson, BFA Assistant.