MINUTES
Executive Committee Meeting,
Boulder Faculty Assembly
Oct 24, 2011

Attending
Jerry Peterson, BFA Chair
Bill Emery, BFA Vice Chair
Catherine Kunce, BFA Secretary
Greg Carey, BFA Executive Committee Member at Large
Peggy Jobe, BFA Executive Committee Member at Large
Carmen Grace, BFA Academic Affairs Committee Chair
Jerry Rudy, BFA Budget and Planning Committee Chair
Uriel Nauenberg, BFA Budget and Planning Committee Member
Melinda Piket-May, BFA Diversity Committee Chair
Martin Walter, BFA Faculty Affairs Committee Representative
Martha Hanna, BFA Libraries Committee Chair
Mike Klymkowsky, BFA Student Affairs Committee Chair Pro-Tem
Joe Rosse, Former BFA Chair
David Kassoy, Retired Faculty Association Representative
Horst Mewes, Arts and Sciences Council Chair
Carly Robinson, CUSG Vice President for Internal Affairs
Bill Kaempfer, Vice Provost, Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Planning
Tricia Rankin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research
Steve McNally, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget, Finance, and Enrollment Management
Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator

Not Attending
Elizabeth Bradley, BFA Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Chair
Karen Ramirez, BFA Administrative Services & Technology Committee Chair
Steven Koenig, President, United Government of Graduate Students

The BFA Executive Committee held its regular meeting on Monday, October 24, 2011 in ATLAS Room 229. Chair Jerry Peterson presided. The meeting convened at 4:00 and adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

I. Chair’s Report

A. Retired Faculty to serve on BFA Committees. The BFA Chair attended last Wednesday’s meeting of the Retired Faculty Association, and invited RFA representatives to get involved on BFA Committees as resource members.

B. BFA involvement in University Award Nominations. Peterson requested discussion on whether the BFA could make nominations for University awards. There was no dissent.

C. Coalition of PAC-12 Faculties. The Chair of Arizona State University’s Faculty Governance organization, Joseph Carter, has indicated it will be involved in the new organization of faculty governance, which formed on October 15th on the Boulder Campus. All twelve of the PAC-12 institutions are now involved in the new organization.

D. Internal BFA Communications. The BFA now has two ListServ-style email lists, for discussion between members. The usual rules of email list etiquette are expected, including that lists should be used only for items of BFA business and BFA discussion.
   i. To reach the entire BFA membership, BFA members may send messages to BFA_faculty@lists.colorado.edu.
ii. To reach the entire Executive Committee, Executive Committee members may send messages to BFA-excom@lists.colorado.edu.

E. Severance Pay in Dismissal. The Faculty Council EPUS and Personnel Committees have proposed new alternate wording for the policy on severance pay in dismissal. Next Monday the BFA Executive Committee will consider both the Denver Faculty Assembly’s wording [http://tinyurl.com/3atm9rb], and the new Faculty Council wording [http://tinyurl.com/5rzj6c8]. One will be presented to the BFA for vote on November 3rd.

F. BFA Excellence Awards. Peterson requested discussion on award procedures.
   i. Discussion followed. The Executive Committee created an ad-hoc committee of former selection committee chair Jerry Peterson and former award recipients Martha Hanna and Melinda Piket-May, to review the procedures.

II. Special Report: Clarification of Summer Pay Process

Peterson welcomed Tricia Rankin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research.

Rankin summarized summer pay procedures for faculty working on grants. She explained the challenge of ensuring that reporting procedures conform with changing definitions and evaluations of how the Federal granting agencies account for summer pay, and reported that the campus must soon revise its processes to ensure it has enough documentation to comply with any information requests from the agencies. She commented that while the campus is not imposing mandatory training for faculty, faculty who are unsure whether they understand the policies may need to take specialized training. She added that most training related to the revised processes will be for department payroll liaisons, not faculty.

Discussion followed.

III. Special Report: Campus Budget Update

Peterson welcomed Steve McNally, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget, Finance, and Enrollment Management.

 McNally’s update included the following points:

• Enrollment This Year.
  o The fall the degree seeking Freshman class was back to more historic levels when we welcomed 5,663 new students. The Resident to non-resident mix is good, at 56% resident students. (State law requires at least 55% of the Freshman class is resident students, on a three-year rolling average.) The academic preparation of the class is very good.
  o Transfer students have increased about 10%.
  o The new degree seeking graduate student population has decreased a small amount. In fall of 2010 new graduate students numbered 1,489. This year they number 1,367. The total degree seeking graduate students remained very similar to last year at a little over 5,100.
  o The International Student body (composed of mostly graduate students) grew by 130 students, a 9% increase.
The total student population is about 30,417, a slight decrease from last year. Continuation rates are similar to historic levels. Degree seeking non-resident undergraduate numbers strengthened a bit.

**Budget** – The Boulder Campus’ total budget this year is $1.22 billion. The largest revenue component of that is $580 million in General Fund money, including $56 million in State support and about $450 million in tuition. Another large revenue component, auxiliary units such as athletics, housing and the bookstore, is about $285 million.

**Salaries** – In April, the Regents approved a 3% merit pool for faculty and exempt staff, dependent on achieving budget goals. The campus recently verified that it met these goals. Merit increases for faculty and exempt staff will therefore be awarded effective October 1, payable October 31. The Regents also expressed a desire for Administration to explore how CU might reward its classified employees as well, because they have maintained a high level of performance. In recognition of those achievements, the Campus has provided a one-time, 3% non-base-building performance/incentive for classified employees who achieved a performance rating of 2 or 3 at their last performance review.

**The Future of State Support** - The State’s economic recovery is making progress, but slowly. The Campus continues to remain optimistic about the current year, but is concerned about Fiscal Year 2012-2013. Total state support for Higher Education is around $519 million, excluding state-provided financial aid. Of that, CU’s portion is $146 million. Of that, the Boulder Campus’ portion is $56 million. We are currently anticipating a reduction of statewide Higher Education funding of $29.3 million for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 of which $11.9 million would be allocated to the CU System. There have been no discussions yet of how that cut will be allocated between the campuses. In addition, we are anticipating that state-provided financial aid will be cut by an unknown amount.

In the discussion that followed, McNally made these additional points:

- Decisions on how the cuts will be allocated will be made by presidents and chancellors.
- The Regents will be asked to consider a multi-year tuition strategy, to assist the campuses in planning for the future. Unfortunately, tuition will likely increase in a structured way over the next several years. CU will need to increase its financial aid as well, especially need-based aid, but also merit-based aid for resident students.

There was discussion of how CU can demonstrate its quality, given the increases in its price tag: ways to assesses student learning could include not just the usual standardized tests but also GRE scores, medical school placements, job placement data, and comparative data on graduates’ salaries. It was suggested that, if that data is available, it be more widely disseminated.

**IV. Committee Items**

**Ad-Hoc Faculty Council Communications Committee**

Piket-May reported that the committee has been working hard on the Faculty/Staff newsletter, “CU Connections,” and that its editor is very responsive to the committee’s concerns. She added that the newsletter is no longer published by the President’s office: he instead distributes his own newsletter. She asked about the possibility of posting a link to CU Connections on the BFA’s website, especially if its editor agreed to reciprocate.
The Executive Committee agreed that the BFA website could include the link to “CU Connections.” Discussion followed on the question of whether the newsletter is sufficient to provide for the needs of the faculty and staff. Kaempfer suggested the newsletter include job opportunity announcements for staff interested in transfer or promotion.

**Faculty Council Women’s Committee**

Piket-May reported that the 10th anniversary of the ‘CU Women Succeeding: Professional Development Symposium’ is in Boulder this year, February 23rd and 24th. The workshop proposal deadline, and Elizabeth Gee award nomination deadline, is November 14th. [Visit https://www.cu.edu/facultycouncil/women/symposium/index.html for more information.]

**BFA Budget and Planning Committee**

Rudy reported that Regent Bosley attended a Faculty Council Budget Committee meeting, and expressed interest in hearing success stories that represent unique interactions between faculty and students, or faculty and the community, that he can repeat at speaking engagements.

Discussion followed. The Executive Committee agreed to suggest to the Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communication, Frances Draper, that the campus create a mechanism to collect the kind of information Regent Bosley is seeking.

**V. Discussion**

The Committee discussed the status of CU’s new dependent tuition benefit. McNally reported that the program is now planned to roll out in Summer, 2012.

**VI. Adjournment.** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20.

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator.