MINUTES
Executive Committee Meeting,
Boulder Faculty Assembly
November 28, 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
Karen Ramirez, BFA Administrative Services & Technology Committee Chair
Jerry Rudy, BFA Budget and Planning Committee Chair
Melinda Piket-May, BFA Diversity Committee Chair
Elizabeth Bradley, BFA Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Chair
Martha Hanna, BFA Libraries Committee Chair
Mike Klymkowsky, BFA Student Affairs Committee Chair Pro-Tem
Joe Rosse, Former BFA Chair
Horst Mewes, Arts and Sciences Council Chair
Bill Kaempfer, Vice Provost, Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Planning
Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator

Not Attending
Paul Chinowsky, BFA Faculty Affairs Committee Representative
David Kassoy, Retired Faculty Association Representative
Carly Robinson, CUSG Vice President for Internal Affairs
Steven Koenig, President, United Government of Graduate Students

Special Guests
Phil DiStefano, Chancellor of the University of Colorado Boulder

The BFA Executive Committee held its regular meeting on Monday, November 28, 2011 in ATLAS Room 229. Chair Jerry Peterson presided. The meeting convened at 4:00 and adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

I. Chair’s Report

   A. BFA Winter Reception Friday, December 2. Invitations have been sent to all BFA members and BFA committee members. Those who have not yet responded are asked to RSVP to the BFA Office at 303-492-6271 or sierra.swearingen@colorado.edu.

   B. Commencement December 16 at 9:30 a.m. All faculty are requested and invited to attend. Entrance for faculty will be easier this year due to completed construction at the Events Center. All faculty in regalia are invited to the Chancellor’s brunch after the ceremony.

   C. Phi Beta Kappa. Executive Committee members are invited to attend the annual Phi Beta Kappa student initiation and reception this Sunday at 5 p.m. in UMC 235.

II. Update: BFA Nominations and Elections Committee, Chair Catherine Kunce

Kunce reported that at this Thursday’s Senate meeting, the Committee will ask the Senate to establish the inaugural membership of the BFA’s new Instructor-Track Faculty Affairs Committee. She added that initial membership terms will end at the end of the current Senate
Year (June 30th), to ensure that elections to those positions can be regularized along with elections to vacant positions on existing BFA Committees during this spring’s election. She reported that eight faculty members have been nominated for the new committee, but the Bylaws grant the committee only seven positions. The nominations are:

- Steve Pollock, a full Professor in Physics,
- Adam Norris, an Instructor in Applied Math,
- Rolf Norgaard, a Senior Instructor in the Program for Writing and Rhetoric,
- Daria Koyts-Schwartz, an Instructor and Program Director in Mechanical Engineering,
- Antonia Green, an Instructor in Spanish and Portuguese,
- Kerry Cripe, a Senior Instructor in Theatre and Dance,
- Cathy Comstock, a Senior Instructor in the Farrand RAP, and
- Steve Chan, a full Professor in Political Science and the Director of the Farrand RAP.

Kunce added that two of these are tenure-track faculty, and three are current BFA members (Norris, Kotys-Schwartz, and Green), which conforms to the Committee’s composition rules.

Moved by Catherine Kunce and seconded by Bill Emery that the Executive Committee use its prerogative to add an additional seat to the committee, and then accept the slate of eight candidates and recommend to the BFA that it ratify these candidates at its meeting this Thursday. The motion passed.

Carey recommended staggering the new members’ term expiration dates. Kunce agreed.

III. Special Report: Chancellor’s Office, University of Colorado Boulder

The Chancellor thanked the Executive Committee members for their service.

He then made a report that included the following points:

- There will be no additional State budget cuts in the current fiscal year, but next year there will likely be cuts that could impact the Boulder campus. We are anticipating cuts of $6 to $8 million for CU-Boulder.
- The Regents meeting in November included a very beneficial discussion of Athletics, including important comments from Elizabeth Bradley, Chair of the BFA’s Intercollegiate Athletics Committee.
- In the second part of the Regents meeting Russell Moore, the Boulder Campus Provost, gave a well-received presentation on the importance and value of university research, including all disciplines, and the role of research in the State’s economic development.
- The Regents’ Executive Session (attended only by the Regents) included a lengthy discussion of salaries. At their request the Regents had been provided with a list of all personnel earning at least $175,000 annually and those individuals who received raises of 6% or more. To give perspective for that information the President’s office is pulling together data for similar-sized corporations with a similarly large impact on the State’s economy. The Chancellor will also meet with the Regents individually to give them additional context, including what goes into teaching and research, and where the Boulder Campus stands nationally.
A discussion period followed, including these topics and perspectives:

- In calculating whether an institution can reduce its budget by cutting salaries it is important to consider costs when key faculty members leave the institution, such as the loss of Technology Transfer funds, and faculty replacement costs.
- There was general discussion of the appropriate role of a University’s board of trustees, and of opportunities for CU’s Regents to interact with other trustees or trustee equivalents at other institutions, to gain important perspective.
- It was recommended that the Campus help the Regents understand the role of research in teaching, and that the Boulder Campus consider increasing its undergraduates’ opportunities to participate in sponsored research.
- The Chancellor reported that private fund-raising has added several endowed chairs this year: two in Business, two in Arts and Sciences, and one in Engineering.

**MOVED by Martha Hanna, seconded by Bill Emery, and amended by Elizabeth Bradley that the Executive Committee pass a resolution to express its gratitude for the efforts that Chancellor DiStefano and President Benson made with the Board of Regents to secure faculty salary raises and support for the staff within the constraints of this year’s budget; and to thank them for their continuing efforts to inform the Board of Regents on issues important to the faculty and the well-being of the University.**

*The amended motion passed with none opposed. [BFA-X-R-112811.]*

- Other topics under discussion included the Boulder Campus’ structured tuition model, financial aid increases that necessarily accompany tuition increases, and diversity.
- The Chancellor reported that two new degrees have been proposed to the Board of Regents—one in Jewish Studies and the other an International BA with an emphasis in the sciences. The Regents have questioned the number of new degrees being proposed by the campuses and Vice President Bollard has presented data from the Chronicle of Higher Education that shows CU-Boulder and CU-Denver are very efficient in the number of degrees offered for their student populations.1
- It was suggested that, in these difficult economic times, it would be helpful if the Regents could devote more time to brainstorming and developing entrepreneurial solutions to CU’s fiscal problems.

The Executive Committee thanked Chancellor DiStefano.

IV. Update: BFA Administrative Services & Technology Committee, Chair Karen Ramirez

Ramirez reminded the Executive Committee that in October it agreed to create an ad-hoc committee to review campus information technology from the viewpoint of the needs of the faculty, and make a recommendation on whether a BFA standing committee on I.T. is called for. Ramirez reported that Administrative Services and Technology Committee (AST) will form the ad-hoc committee by the end of the semester and that Shivakant Mishra, of Computer Science,

has volunteered to serve as Chair. Ramirez requested suggestions of other members.

Peterson requested that the AST develop a charge for the ad-hoc committee, that its membership be broadly representational, and that it include at least one faculty member teaching large classes.

Discussion followed. Ramirez reported that the concept for the committee is not to duplicate the work of the Office of Information Technology, but to ensure the BFA has an appropriate body in place to collect faculty input on issues that are of concern to them. There were comments that a similar shared governance structure already exists on the topics of Budget and Planning (the Academic Affairs Budget Advisory Committee and the BFA’s Budget and Planning Committee), and Athletics (the department Committees and the BFA’s Intercollegiate Athletics Committee).

Ramirez reported that AST requested summaries from the administrative services units of their main initiatives, and thereby learned that the BFA’s charge to AST may be too extensive to be handled by a single committee. She added that the Committee already has good communication with the OIT, but that accountability would be more consistent if the BFA had a separate committee or subcommittee to attend to OIT matters.

V. Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:18.

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator.