MINUTES
Executive Committee Meeting,
Boulder Faculty Assembly
November 12, 2012

Attending
Jerry Peterson, BFA Chair
Carmen Grace, BFA Secretary
Greg Carey, BFA Executive Committee Member at Large
Karen Ramirez, BFA Administrative Services & Technology Committee Chair
Ruth Ellen Kocher, BFA Diversity Committee Co-Chair
Ted Stark, BFA Faculty Affairs Committee Chair
Asuncion Horno-Delgado, BFA Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee Co-Chair
Rolf Norgaard, BFA Instructor-Track Faculty Affairs Committee Co-Chair
Adam Norris, BFA Instructor-Track Faculty Affairs Committee Co-Chair
Elizabeth Bradley, BFA Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Chair
Robert Parson, BFA Libraries Committee Chair
Mike Klymkowsky, BFA Student Affairs Committee Chair Pro-Tem
David R. Kassoy, Retired Faculty Association Representative
Robert Ferry, 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 Vice Chair
Peggy Jobe, BFA Executive Committee Member at Large
John McCartney, BFA Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee Co-Chair
Jerry Rudy, BFA Budget and Planning Committee Chair
Joe Rosse, Former BFA Chair
Nikki Comer, CUSG Director of Academic Affairs
Steven Koenig, UGGS President

Guest
Louise Vale, Vice Chancellor for Administration

The Boulder Faculty Assembly Executive Committee held its regular meeting on Monday, November 12, 2012 in Norlin Library Room N410. Chair Jerry Peterson presided. The meeting convened at 4:00 and adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

I. Chair’s Report

a. Index Scores – Peterson introduced a discussion of whether UCB could increase its index scores. Discussion followed, including these points:
   • The Campus could begin a program of faculty contacting high-achieving freshmen individually after fall semester, to encourage them to continue.
   • Increasing the index score would affect enrollment numbers and tuition revenue, as well as the character of its in-state and out-of-state mix.
   • Kaempfer reported that an applicant’s index score alone does not guarantee admission. The CCHE requires each institution to maintain a certain percentage (80%) of its admitted students above that institution’s index number. Students with lower index scores are nevertheless often admitted.
The Boulder Campus currently admits fewer than the allowed 20% with scores below the index.

- Kaempfer added that the average SAT score for of admitted students at UCB has risen for the last 10 years, although there is a large gap between the average scores of resident students, and those of non-resident students. Peterson commented that UCB should pursue more recognition in the media for that increase.
- One Executive Committee member saw the proposal as putting the burden for improved academics on the students, without a corresponding burden on the faculty.
- Faculty Affairs Committee Chair Ted Stark reported that UCB’s Director of Admissions, Kevin McClellan, will attend a meeting soon to discuss admission rates, and will be asked for more information about index scores.
- A few years ago the Campus analyzed a similar proposal involving enrollment growth and academic standards: at the time, the other campuses were expanding while the Boulder Campus was attempting to slow its growth by increasing admission standards, raising tuition, and offsetting that increase with increases in financial aid. There was a request that the BFA hear a report on the outcome of that proposal. [See BFA minutes of September 6, 2001, http://www.colorado.edu/FacultyGovernance/oldWebSite/BFAMINS/BMINARCH/01_02/090601.html.]

II. Introduction: Louise Vale, Vice Chancellor for Administration

Peterson welcomed Louise Vale, UCB’s new Vice Chancellor for Administration. After introductions, Vale gave a brief overview of her experience and a summary of UCB’s divisions that now report to her. Her comments included the following:

- Vale has worked for CU for 22 years, including roles at the Medical Campus, the Denver Campus, and the Boulder Campus. For the last two years Vale was Director of CU Internal Audit.
- Boulder Campus units that report to the Vice Chancellor for Administration include:
  - Human Resources,
  - Facilities Management,
  - Public Safety (police) and Parking & Transportation,
  - Environmental Health and Safety,
  - The CU Bookstore, and
  - Imaging Services.
- Quite a few program reviews are happening now in these divisions.

A discussion session followed on various communication difficulties around new construction and its funding sources, and the special challenge of finding support to maintain existing structures. Vale reported her interest in working to educate legislators and others about the real sources of construction funding. She also commented that prioritizing needs on campus necessarily involves health and safety concerns, in addition to funding.

One member commented that maintenance, and funding for new construction, have different
funding sources. It was suggested that the Campus create a communications strategy to help defray some of the negative public relations impact from new construction at a time when some academic spaces have become unusable due to deferred maintenance. Vale commented that there is a process in place for dealing with those spaces, involving requests for funding from the State. In addition, Vale commented the Campus just finished the 10-year Campus Master Plan and her understanding was that there was considerable campus involvement, including faculty involvement, in the development of the Master Plan. Peterson offered Vale the assistance of the faculty in making requests for State funding.

There was discussion of the negative public relations impact of new construction at a time when tuition is rising. Peterson again offered the assistance of the faculty. Karen Ramirez, Chair of the BFA Administrative Services and Technology Committee (AST), reported that AST will meet with Vale in December to renew the Campus’ shared governance connection with the Division of Administration. She commented that, while the Campus Master Plan has been finalized, it remains important for the Campus to hear the observations of faculty as projects from the Plan move forward: questions that may have been answered already may need to be answered again, to ensure efficient communication. One Executive Committee member commented that poor communication about the space planning and execution process has been demoralizing in the past, and that improved communication would be a very welcome and positive change.

Vale invited further feedback to her at Louise.Vale@colorado.edu.

Peterson thanked Vale.

III. Committee Reports and Updates

Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee

Co-Chair Asuncion Horno-Delgado called the attention of the Committee to a proposed agenda, printed on the back of today’s agenda [see addendum I below, to see today’s revisions].

Moved by Asuncion Horno-Delgado on behalf of the BFA Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee that the Executive Committee approve the resolution for forwarding to the BFA.

Discussion followed, including these points and perspectives:

- It was generally agreed that, while the BFA might benefit by knowing more about the cost of extending the requested benefit, the benefit should nevertheless be provided.
- Horno-Delgado commented that faculty on CU’s other Campuses enjoy the dependent tuition benefit throughout the year, and that without the benefit, the Boulder Campus is in danger of losing its investment in its new Assistant Professors, who may leave CU for other Universities that do offer tuition benefits. She added that, to make the benefit meaningful will require that the students using the benefit be allowed to matriculate as regular students. She also added that the benefit will help the Boulder Campus to recruit and retain faculty, as well as quality students.
- It was suggested that the motion be revised to include same sex partners. Horno-Delgado
accepted the friendly amendment to add “Domestic Partners” to the list of those could use the benefit.

- It was suggested that, when the resolution is presented to the full BFA, it be accompanied by information about similar benefits offered by UCB’s peer institutions.
- There was a request that a notice of motion be forwarded to the BFA electronically this week, to allow the BFA to discuss the motion in advance, and vote on the resolution at its December meeting. If approved at the December meeting, the resolution could then be used in current recruitment activities.
- Kaempfer reported that faculty and staff dependents cannot register as matriculated students when using the benefit because Boulder’s tuition is structured differently that tuition at CU’s other campuses, and that this has been the major issue with extending the benefit further.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Student Affairs Committee
Committee Chair Mike Klymkowsky reported that the Committee is developing language for a motion to ensure that the efficacy of on-line courses is appropriately tested.

A brief discussion followed. ASC Chair Bob Ferry reported that the Arts and Sciences Council Curriculum Committee is currently considering similar issues. Peterson reported that the Boulder Campus’ Mike Lightner is chairing a system-wide group on the subject of I.T. in education, and that he will be invited to discuss the issues with the BFA at its February meeting.

Combined Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee

Committee Chair Ted Stark reported that the combined committee has been meeting regularly and that attendance is good. He added that items before the committee include a possible motion to officially merge the two committees; and a discussion of whether to revive reading days before finals.

Peterson reported that he has asked the Chancellor to have reports prepared for him on the efficacy both educationally and financially of Maymester, Summer Sessions, and online courses. Kaempfer reported that Maymester is tremendously popular with students and with faculty. (Maymester is the term at which the highest percentage of students is being taught by tenure-track faculty.) He added that Maymester and Summer Session are both very successful economically, but there has been very little change over the last 8 to 10 years in the number of student credit hours generated in Maymester and Summer Session: the percent of student credit hours for which summer session and Maymester are responsible is about 5%.

Peterson added that he has also asked the Chancellor to have a report prepared on the efficacy of the Campus’ relatively new week-long Fall Break.

IV. New Business.

Peterson reported that the BFA will again hold its annual Winter Reception in the University Club Ballroom.

Nominations and Elections Committee Chair Carmen Grace reminded the Executive Committee that the BFA is planning to conduct its annual election on line again. [ The BFA Election calendar can be accessed on line at http://www.colorado.edu/FacultyGovernance/elections/.

V. Adjournment. The Executive Committee adjourned the meeting at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator.
Addendum I: Draft Resolution, with revisions noted:

BFA Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee Resolution
Background:
The faculty/staff tuition benefit allows eligible employees and their spouses and dependents to receive a waiver for up to a total of nine credit hours of tuition per year (http://bursar.colorado.edu/resources/tuition-benefit/). However, there are several restrictions on this benefit that prevent it from being effective for faculty and their spouses and dependents to take courses on the Boulder campus. Currently, the tuition waiver may be used during the summer semester by both matriculated (degree-seeking) and non-matriculated students, but may only be used during the academic year by non-matriculated students on a space-available basis.

BFA Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee Resolution Regarding the Faculty/Staff Tuition Benefit
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER CAMPUS SHOULD The BFA moves to extend the ability for faculty and their spouses and dependents AND DOMESTIC PARTNERS (matriculated or non-matriculated) to use the faculty/staff tuition waiver during any semester on a normal enrollment basis.

The BFA believes that this change will not only make the faculty/staff tuition benefit a more effective retention and recruiting tool for faculty, but will also help improve the recruiting of high quality students into our classes without displacing students who pay full tuition.

Approved by the BFA Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee: November 2, 2012

[Amendments IN CAPS added by BFA Executive Committee, November 12, 2012.]