MINUTES
Boulder Faculty Assembly
December 1, 2016

BFA Members Attending
Tiffany Beechy
Max Boykoff
Janet Casagrand
Greg Carey
Philip Chang
Cathy Comstock
Priscilla Craven
Bob Ferry
Phil Graves
David Gross
Vicki Grove
Aya Gruber
Abby Hickcox
Seth Hornstein
John Hoover
Kris Karnauskas, APS Rep.
Catherine Kunce
Kevin Mahan
Jim Meiss
Shelly Miller
Shivakant Mishra
Steve Nerem
Roseanna Neupauer
Alistair Norcross
Rolf Norgaard
Adam Norris
Kevin Mahan
Ltc. Aaron Roof
Steve Vanderheiden
Glenda Walden
Marty Walter
Deborah Whitehead
Ping Xu

BFA Members Not Present
Albert Alhadeff
Julio Baena
Mel Cundiff
Bridgett Dalton
Mike Dunn
Monika Fleshner
Allen Harlow
Jerry Jacka
Sarah James
Terry Kleeman
Jeanne Liotta
Bruce Montgomery
Kathryn Pieplow
Melinda Piket-May
Gail Ramsberger
Patricia Rankin
Kevin Rich
Shalom Ruben
Daniel Schwartz
Jamie Skerski
David Slayden
Seth Spielman
Bryan Taylor
Jeff Weiss (sabbatical)

Liasons Attending
Robert Rupert, Arts and Sciences Counsel Chair
David Kassoy, Retired Faculty Association President
Julie Poppen, Interim Director of Media Relations, Office of Strategic Relations
Ann Schmiesing, Interim Dean of the Graduate School and BFA Administration Liaison
Vonda Maki, Staff Council Liaison
Sierra Swearingen, Boulder Faculty Assembly Coordinator

Guests and Presenters Attending
Aisha Jackson, Associate Director of Academic Technology Applications, Office of Information Technology
Leslie Reynolds, Senior Associate Dean of Libraries
Thomas Hauser, Director of Research Computing

The Boulder Faculty Assembly held a regular meeting on December 1, 2016 in the Center for Community Flatirons Room. Vice Chair Adam Norris presided. The meeting convened at 4:00 p.m. and adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

I. Officer’s Report
1. Faculty Council Privilege and Tenure Committee: P&T is seeking nominees to replace members whose terms are ending this year. Please make nominations now, to allow time for sufficient orientation on P&T procedures. Email nominations to Vicki.Grove@colorado.edu.
2. BFA AAP review of Dean Steven Leigh: Due to a problem in Microsoft Outlook, several of the Administrator Appraisal Committee’s messages to A&S faculty are being delivered straight to junk mail. A&S faculty are urged to check their junk mail folders and complete the AAP survey, and ask faculty in their departments to do the same. AAP sent out invitations to take the survey one or two weeks before Thanksgiving, and have sent two reminders since then.
3. Learning Management Systems: faculty are urged to complete the survey about Desire2Learn.

II. Special Report: Learning Management Systems (LMS)
Norris welcomed Aisha Jackson, Associate Director of Academic Technology Applications, Office of Information Technology.

Jackson gave a report on the status of the Boulder Campus’ effort to evaluate options for replacing Desire2Learn (D2L). Her comments included the following:

- Boulder has been using D2L as its primary LMS since 2011. Its reliability has improved but concerns remain about its ease of use.
- Director of OIT Larry Levine and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Mary Kraus have begun a process to evaluate D2L and other possible replacements for it. [addendum A].
- The process includes gathering feedback from students, faculty, and staff, and using it to frame requests for proposals. For example, web-based grading, often requested by faculty, will be included. The team is also interested in hearing from vendors about E-portfolio tools, and will examine non-vendor, non-supported systems. Proposals will be evaluated using a faculty governance-centered model, with a decision expected in May, 2017. The new tools (if any) will then be integrated onto campus in a process that will extend into 2020.
- Several project teams have formed, and several BFA members are involved. The teams have been collecting data and conducting outreach. If you would like OIT to report to your department about the project, please contact Ms. Jackson at Aisha.Jackson@colorado.edu.
- Next steps in the evaluation include: analyze survey results and data, issue a summary report to the campus, hold a town hall, and publish the results online [http://www.colorado.edu/lms/]. Requests for proposals should be drafted by mid-January. Questions for the vendors will continue to be refined into the spring semester. Evaluations will occur between February and May. Faculty will be given opportunities to participate by attending vendor presentations, evaluation sessions, and by interacting with the proposed products in sand-box environments.

A question-and-answer period followed.

III. Committee Reports

Budget and Planning Committee: Chair David Gross reported that the Committee heard a report from CFO Kelly Fox, including a summary of her presentation to the Regents on the cost and value of research; and enrollment numbers. The Committee has considered alternative revenue models for summer session, and has recommended moving to a linear model. The Committee also recommends the Campus change its tuition differentials to a four-plus-one program, rather than concurrent.

Libraries Committee: Chair Philip Chang reported that the Athletics Department has provided a one-time gift of $50,000 to the Libraries’ acquisition budget.

IV. Special Report: University Libraries

Chang then welcomed Leslie Reynolds, Senior Associate Dean of the Libraries, and Thomas Hauser, Director of Research Computing, who gave a presentation on the Libraries’ new Center for Research Data and Digital Scholarship (CRDDS) [addendum B]. Their report included these points:

- The Center is a collaboration between Research Computing and the Libraries.
- The Center’s mission is to develop and advance data science and digital scholarship in several
ways, including management, analysis, training, and connection with existing services.

- The Center will offer research partnerships, support services, and consulting.
- Its initiatives include digital scholarship, research data management, and cyberinfrastructure.
- Reynolds and Hauser will be the Center’s Executive Directors.

V. Committee Reports, Continued

**Faculty Affairs Committee:** Chair Alastair Norcross’s report included these points and perspectives:

- The Committee has met several times this semester, primarily looking into grievance procedures and support for faculty who are being investigated.
- The Committee met this month with AVC for Faculty Affairs Jeff Cox and Director of Faculty Relations Suzanne Soled. Discussion included a possible change to the AVC’s role, in which he would attend meetings with faculty grievants as an independent observer.
- The Committee has strongly endorsed the BFA Climate Change resolution.
- The Committee has noted that administration sometimes appears to go against the recommendations of CU’s Privilege and Tenure Committee. There may be a written policy that requires a written explanation and the Committee has requested a copy of it.

Discussion followed.

VI. New Business

Norris recognized Hillary Potter. Potter reported that she has corresponded with Director of Parking Services, Tom McGann, about the issue of faculty being displaced from their parking spaces during finals week. Norris requested that Potter contact McGann with the BFA’s request for a written policy to address the issue for the entire campus. Norris proposed a straw vote of support for the request.

>*The BFA voted unanimously to support Potter’s request that Parking Services develop a written policy to provide alternative parking arrangements for faculty during finals week.*

Notice of Motion: Resolution to Address the Effects of Climate Change

Norris recognized Shelly Miller, who presented a resolution that the BFA encourages the Campus community to address the effects of climate change [addendum C: BFA-R-1-120116].

Discussion followed.

>*Moved by Bob Ferry and seconded by Jim Meiss that the rules be suspended to allow the BFA to vote on the resolution at today’s meeting.*

>*The motion passed with none opposed and no abstentions.*

>*Moved by Shelly Miller and seconded by Max Boykoff that the BFA approve the resolution to address the effects of climate change.*
Discussion followed. Miller reported that her team could distribute the resolution to the departments, if approved, to request that each department consider voting on it as well. Bob Ferry called the question. Paper ballots were distributed.

*The motion passed with 29 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.*

Notice of Motion: Resolution in support of First-Year Experiences.

Norgaard presented the following resolution on behalf of the Executive Committee:

~~ NOTICE OF MOTION ~~

Resolved: The Boulder Faculty Assembly supports development of a wide variety of high-impact First Year experiences, with strong faculty involvement in development and implementation of such experiences.

Forwarded to the full Assembly by the BFA Executive Committee: November 28, 2016
Notice of Motion to the full BFA Assembly: December 1, 2016

Discussion followed. Norgaard made a friendly amendment to replace “faculty involvement” with Faculty Governance involvement,” and to add an additional clause: “with continued support for existing programs that have proven themselves to be effective, and with minimal disruption to faculty and staff positions.” Other friendly amendments from the floor included a request that terms be defined, including the term “high-impact experience;” and that the word “wide” should be deleted.

Points and perspectives that arose in the discussion included:
- Changes are being made with no collaboration with faculty governance and no discussion.
- The A.V.C. for Undergraduate Education has been asked to attend a BFA meeting to explain t

Notice of Motion: to Revise BFA Bylaws to Reorganize Distribution of Representation

Norris presented a handout describing a few changes to Article I of the BFA Bylaws:
- remove the cap on the number of BFA representatives to allow smaller departments to have a direct representative, if any wants one;
- add two at-large seats, to allow faculty that are not rostered in a department to join the BFA;
- create a new rule that bases each year’s distribution of representation on an annual census of active members, to aid in situations when absenteeism interferes with the BFA’s effectiveness.

Discussion followed.

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Norris adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator.