MINUTES
Executive Committee Meeting,
Boulder Faculty Assembly
February 20, 2012

Attending
Jerry Peterson, BFA Chair
Bill Emery, BFA Vice Chair
Catherine Kunce, BFA Secretary
Peggy Jobe, BFA Executive Committee Member at Large
Greg Carey, BFA Executive Committee Member at Large
Carmen Grace, BFA Academic Affairs Committee Chair
Jerry Rudy, BFA Budget and Planning Committee Chair
Paul Chinowsky, BFA Faculty Affairs Committee Chair
Adam Norris, BFA Instructor-Track Faculty Affairs Committee Co-Chair
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
Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator

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

Special Guests
Maw Der Foo, BFA Nominations and Elections Committee member
Robert Stubbs, Office of Planning, Budget, and Analysis
Glenn Colby, Office of Planning, Budget, and Analysis

The BFA Executive Committee held its regular meeting on Monday, February 20, 2012 in ATLAS Room 229. Chair Jerry Peterson presided. The meeting convened at 4:00 and adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

I. Nominations and Elections Committee Motion:

Chair Catherine Kunce reported that, in working to build a list of voters for ballot distribution, the Office of Planning, Budget, and Analysis discovered ambiguities in the definition of eligibility. Kunce distributed a resolution that the Executive Committee resolve the ambiguity by defining eligibility in this election. [Addendum below.] After discussion, the Executive Committee revised the ‘resolved’ section of the resolution to read:

Therefore resolved that the Executive Committee of the Boulder Faculty Assembly determine the body of eligible voters in the Spring, 2012 BFA Election, and that the definition is as follows: Boulder campus Professors of any rank, Instructors of any rank, Scholars in Residence, and Artists in Residence are eligible to vote. Temporary ranks including adjuncts and visiting professors are not eligible to vote. Faculty who fit this description but who happen to be on sabbatical, family leave, or medical leave, may nevertheless vote in this election.
Moved by Catherine Kunce that the Executive Committee approve the revised resolution.

The motion passed with 12 in favor and 1 abstention.

Kunce then reported that the 1983 Rules of the Boulder Faculty Senate defines the Senate to include the President and Vice Presidents of the University, the Chancellor and Vice Chancellors, the Deans, and the Directors of the Library and Museum. She asked for discussion on whether to include these administrators in the list of eligible voters.

Discussion followed. Several noted that not all of those listed are faculty members. Peterson recommended that the matter be decided by a motion and a vote.

Moved by Catherine Kunce that those administrators who are not also faculty members should be eligible to vote in the 2012 election.

The Motion failed for lack of a second.

Kunce reported that LASP has made nominations for the BFA’s two seats for Research Associates, but the Committee has not yet decided how to proceed because of ambiguity as to RA’s Senate membership status, and lack of clarity about the proper election procedure.

Moved by Catherine Kunce that the BFA continue to seat two voting delegates from among Research Associates, who are not members of the Boulder Faculty Senate.

Discussion followed. Bylaws Committee Chair Bill Emery reported that the BFA is required to conduct a review of its membership apportionment at least every five years to ensure a fair distribution of representation, that these seats were created in 2008 as a part of the last review, and that whether the seats should continue would be best determined in the next review. Jobe commented that not all research institutes have been made aware of the opportunity for participation, or been contacted for nominations.

The motion did not succeed, with 3 in favor and 9 opposed.

II. Special Report: CUSG Goals and Initiatives

Carly Robinson, CUSG Vice President for Internal Affairs reported on two areas of concern:
• the Honor Code, and
• CUSG’s response to the upcoming events of April 20, which in recent years have brought several community members to campus to smoke marijuana in public.

As to the Honor Code, Robinson noted that the terms of the Code require the BFA’s approval, but the BFA has not granted its approval. She added that CUSG would like to provide a liaison for Honor Code matters.

Klymkowsky reported that his committee recently discussed the Code, and that its concerns include inadequate notice of hearings, and protecting the faculty’s right to issue grades.
As to the events of April 20, Robinson reported that CUSG has passed a resolution that “The University of Colorado Student Government Legislative Council hereby supports the CUSG Executives and University administration in their efforts to remove the 4/20 event off the CU-Boulder campus.”

Moved by Joe Rosse and seconded by Greg Carey that the BFA pass a resolution in support of the CUSG resolution, using the same language.

Discussion followed. Jobe requested that Rosse’s motion, if passed, should be given to the Assembly for a vote at its meeting on March 1st.

The motion passed with 12 in favor and none opposed.

III. Chair’s Report

Peterson reported that President Benson, who will attend the BFA meeting on March 1st, has asked the BFA which topics it would like him to address.

Discussion followed. Suggested topics included: newspaper coverage about administrator salary increases, the Thursday Boulder campus football game this fall, tuition, and the a bill in the State legislature to require a statewide database of faculty salaries.

IV. Committee Updates

Faculty Affairs Committee

Chair Paul Chinowsky reminded the Executive Committee of two initiatives: an internal visiting faculty program [http://tinyurl.com/7v66eq2], and interdisciplinary seminars [http://tinyurl.com/74ajy5e], distributed via e-mail prior to today’s meeting. Chinowsky reported that both have already received a positive, unofficial reception from Administration.

Moved by Faculty Affairs Committee Chair Paul Chinowsky that the Executive Committee approve the two proposed initiatives for forwarding to the BFA.

Discussion followed.

The Motion passed without dissent.

Nominations and Elections Committee

Chair Catherine Kunce handed out two election-related email messages to be sent to the Senate this week to increase interest in the upcoming election, and asked the Executive Committee to approve them. The Executive Committee did so.

Student Affairs Committee
Chair Mike Klykowsky reported that the Committee met on Friday and discussed:

- the Honor Code,
- existing campus rules on when finals should be scheduled,
- student rights to receive copies of their exams and papers,
- exams scheduled outside of normally scheduled class periods,
- faculty expectations for students’ assignments, as to potentially offensive content,
- how the campus can help students graduate in a timely manner,
- whether certain required courses are justified, and
- unintended barriers students face, including class registration problems, and students having to take classes that serve no apparent purpose.

Discussion followed, including the following perspectives and comments:

- Higher Education is broader than the courses students take. It also teaches students how to learn, gives students the opportunity to consider viewpoints that are different from their own, and teaches them responsibility.
- The Committee could look at certain required classes that grant ‘zero credit.’
- The Committee could look at reciprocity issues between colleges. For example, students must be admitted to the Business School before taking a class there, but Business students are less restricted from taking classes in Arts and Sciences.

V. Discussion

The Executive Committee continued its discussion on the role and practices of the BFA. Several Committees contributed specific initiatives they are interested in pursuing:

- Libraries Committee: establish a viable model for funding the Libraries in the future.
- Academic Affairs Committee: address several problem areas, including the new ISIS system, student advising, and enrollments.
- Instructor-Track Faculty Affairs Committee: actively promote, define, and clarify the role of Instructors on the Boulder Campus.
- Faculty Affairs Committee: build interdisciplinary work, and pathways to promotion.

Other comments included that the BFA must pursue ways in which it can be more adequately informed about basic academic issues, at every level.

MOVED by Paul Chinowsky and seconded by Bill Emery to devote next Monday’s Executive Committee meeting to continued discussion of the BFA’s principles and goals.

Discussion followed.

The motion passed with none opposed.

VI. Adjournment. Peterson adjourned the meeting at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator.
ADDENDUM

BFA Nominations and Elections Committee Motion
To Define the List of Eligible Voters in the Spring 2012 BFA Election

Whereas the Preamble to the BFA Bylaws contains the following language:

Those eligible to vote for and serve as members of the Boulder Faculty Assembly shall include the following faculty with appointments of at least 50%: Professors of any rank except adjunct or ‘of practice,’ Instructors of any rank, Research Professors of any rank, Clinical Professors of any rank, and ROTC faculty of any rank.

and whereas the 1983 Rules of the Boulder Faculty Senate contain the following language:

The Faculty Senate shall consist of persons in the following ranks:

1. Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, Professors Adjoint, Professors Attendant Rank, and professors Emeritus. Full-time Instructors after two years in rank at the University.

2. The President and Vice Presidents of the University, the Chancellor, Vice Chancellors, Deans, and the Directors of the Library and Museum.

and whereas these definitions conflict,

Therefore resolved that the Executive Committee of the Boulder Faculty Assembly determine the body of eligible voters in the Spring, 2012 BFA Election, and that the definition is as follows:

Boulder Campus Professors of any rank except adjunct, visiting, or ‘of practice,’ and instructors of any rank who hold at least a 50% appointment on the Boulder Campus. Faculty who fit this description but who happen to be on sabbatical, family leave, or medical leave, may nevertheless vote in this election.