MINUTES
Boulder Faculty Assembly Executive Committee
February 27, 2017

Executive Committee Members Attending:
Melinda Piket-May, Chair
Adam Norris, Vice Chair
Vicki Grove, Secretary
John Hoover, Administrative Services and Technology Committee Chair
Greg Carey, Administrator Appraisal Committee Chair
David Gross, Budget and Planning Committee Chair
Alastair Norcross, Faculty Affairs Committee Chair
Rolf Norgaard, Instructor-Track Faculty Affairs Committee Chair
David Chang, Libraries Committee Chair

Liaisons and Guests Attending:
Priscilla Craven, BFA Diversity Committee Representative
Robert Rupert, Arts and Sciences Council Chair
Richard Bateman, United Government of Graduate Students President
Juan Garcia-Oyervides, UGGS Executive Vice President
William Kaempfer, Senior Vice Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Planning
Sara Thompson, Dean of Continuing Education & Vice Provost for Summer Session and Outreach and Engagement
William Kuskin, Vice Provost & Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives
Sierra Swearingen, Boulder Faculty Assembly Coordinator
Valerie Musgrave, Boulder Faculty Assembly Student Assistant

The Boulder Faculty Assembly Executive Committee held a regular meeting on February 27th, 2017 in Regent Hall Room 1B25. BFA Chair Melinda Piket-May convened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

I. Officer’s Report

- The BFA Excellence Awards presentation ceremony is scheduled for April 4th.
- The BFA is now accepting nominations for BFA At-Large members and for non-BFA members on BFA Committees.
- The national meeting of the Pac-12 Academic Leadership Coalition is this weekend at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. Anyone who is interested in coming should contact Piket-May right away.

II. New Business: Notice of Motion to Revise the BFA Bylaws

Norris provided handouts describing proposed changes to the Bylaws and the Standing Rules [addenda A and B].

Discussion followed, including these points and perspectives:
- If the rules reserve at-Large seats for instructors, they should reserve the same number for tenure-track faculty.
• Standing Rules Article 1 Section 1(d), should state “no more than six of these members shall be from any ONE [academic unit],” rather than identifying Arts and Sciences.
• The Bylaws rather than the Standing Rules should state the process by which requested new seats would be created, in part to require a 2/3rd vote to change the process.
• Another term should be substituted for Unit when not used to describe a traditional, tenure-bearing Academic Unit. For example “academic constituency.”

There was discussion of whether the proposed revisions are ready to be presented to the BFA for a vote at its meeting this Thursday.

III. Brief Committee Reports

Diversity Committee, Member Priscilla Craven
The Committee is working closely with the Boulder Campus office of Data Analytics to develop a break-out of faculty numbers based on ethnicity and gender.

Piket-May requested the Committee research and consider how existing spousal hire procedures may impact diverse hires.

Budget Committee, Chair David Gross
• At Friday’s Committee meeting Vice Chancellor for Infrastructure and Safety David Kang gave a presentation on UCB’s strategic facilities planning and initiatives. Kang signaled that he is open to faculty governance involvement in the strategic planning process. At this Thursday’s BFA meeting the B&P Committee will request the BFA propose methods to involve faculty governance in the process.
• The Committee has several vacancies for members both inside and outside the BFA membership.
• The Committee would like to begin a conversation with the Executive Committee about what the Committee’s role and responsibilities are, and should be.

Administrative Services and Technology Committee, Chair John Hoover
OIT has begun holding town hall meetings on its review of Learning Management Systems, and will give a progress update at the BFA meeting this Thursday.

IV. Special Report and Discussion: Curriculum Development Process

Piket-May welcomed Sara Thompson, Dean of Continuing Education and Vice Provost for Summer Session and Outreach and Engagement, and William Kuskin, Vice Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives.

Kuskin provided a handout about a proposed Intercampus Degree Program [addendum C]. His report included these points and perspectives:
• The idea for an inter-campus degree program began with the Regents. It initially resulted in CU Connect. In March 2016 the Regents expressed interest in a faculty-led on line degree program. UCD responded with its existing inter-disciplinary degree. UCCS responded with plans to create an inter-disciplinary on-line program. UCB was
asked to provide its course catalog to assist with those programs.

- The inter-campus degree program is all three campuses working together. It is not a Boulder program.
- The fundamental purpose of the program is to allow CU to create a structure to package courses and present them to all CU Students on CU Connect.
- Faculty from all three campuses would create the courses. He added that the Denver and UCCS Campuses would each have a local shell that would allow the students on those Campuses to take Boulder’s courses, in pursuit of this degree.

Thompson reported that, separately from the intercampus degree program, some faculty are currently working on a possible three-year inter-disciplinary degree to be offered through CU Boulder’s Continuing Education.

Discussion followed, including these points and perspectives:

- The authority to issue a degree belongs to the faculty that has expertise in that discipline. Getting the approval of that faculty for these degrees is a necessary pre-requisite.
- Recent newspaper articles about these matters were misleading and incorrect.
- Under the Laws of the Regents the Faculty are in charge of originating academic programs. A handful of committee members who happen to be faculty members is not sufficient to establish that the Faculty originated the programs.
- Will the proposed degrees be marked as granted by Continuing Education? Similar degrees at other institutions are marked as granted by their extension programs.
- Some faculty have expressed resistance to the proposed programs because duly elected representative faculty have not been involved in their creation.
- These programs would improve access to students who cannot come to the Boulder campus. Inter-campus degree students would continue to be homed at UCD or UCCS, while taking Boulder’s courses via CU Connect, for credit.
- Kuskin and Thompson should request the BFA elect faculty members to serve on these programs’ committees, and request college-level governance organizations do the same.
- College-level curriculum committees should also play a role in these programs.
- No proposal has yet been presented to the Campus or to the Regents.
- Kuskin is open to expanding the existing faculty committee to include governance representatives.
- Does Continuing Education have the same duties and rights as the other schools and colleges at UCB and if not, are the Regents aware of that difference?
- The CU Denver College of Arts and Sciences is the grantor of UCD’s interdisciplinary degree, perhaps because UCD does not have a division of Continuing Education.
- These programs are being created to meet current and future demands of the job market.
- Will these inter-disciplinary degrees prepare students for the job market, especially those students who enroll in these programs because traditional college was too challenging?
- What is the job market for a degree in inter-disciplinary studies?
- The Division of Continuing Education already provides classes to assist students in finishing their degrees. If the only difference is that these programs are all on-line, why can they not be offered through main campus colleges and schools?
V. Adjournment

There being no further business, Piket-May adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator.