MINUTES  Boulder Faculty Assembly Executive Committee  March 13, 2017

Executive Committee Members Attending:
Melinda Piket-May, Chair
Adam Norris, Vice Chair
Vicki Grove, Secretary
Kathryn Pieplow, Academic Affairs Committee Chair
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
Roseanna Neupauer, Intercollegiate Athletics Committee Chair
Philip Chang, Libraries Committee Chair
Ltc. Aaron Roof, Student Affairs Committee Co-Chair

Liaisons and Guests Attending:
William Kaempfer, Senior Vice Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Planning
Richard Bateman, United Government of Graduate Students President
Juan Garcia-Oyervides, UGGS Executive Vice President
Sierra Swearingen, Boulder Faculty Assembly Coordinator
Valerie Musgrave, Boulder Faculty Assembly Student Assistant

The Boulder Faculty Assembly Executive Committee held a regular meeting on March 13th, 2017 in Regent Hall Room 302. BFA Chair Melinda Piket-May convened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. and adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

I. Officer’s Report

BFA Chair Melinda Piket-May:
 a. The Pac 12 Academic Leadership Coalition met last weekend at the University of Utah Campus. The meeting went well and the group is developing.
 b. The Faculty Council Personnel Committee is working on an anti-bullying policy
 c. The Regents are now reviewing Article V of the Laws of the Regents. The BFA will continue to monitor their progress and provide feedback.
 d. The Division of Continuing Education is continuing to plan an on-line degree. CU’s Vice President for Academic Affairs reports that it will not be approved.
   The Executive Committee discussed the matter. It was generally agreed that faculty are against degrees that are not helpful to students.
 e. The CCHE is considering eliminating college algebra as a pre-requisite in Colorado, on the theory is that college algebra is an unnecessary hurdle and blocks access.
 f. CU’s new Regent: Jack Kroll, has reported that his interests are instructor status, veterans transitioning, and eliminating financial support for intercollegiate athletics.

BFA Secretary Vicki Grove:
 g. Last Saturday the BFA distributed electronic ballots to all faculty Senate members at UCB, to elect new BFA members at-large and new members of BFA Committees.
In the discussion that followed there was a request to clarify that portion of the ballot that is to elect at-large BFA members; and to clarify what the word “section” means as used in the ballot.

II. Old Business

The Committee continued its discussion on acknowledgment and compensation for dissertation advisors. The discussion may continue at the next Executive Committee meeting.

III. New Business

Nominations and Elections Committee, Chair Vicki Grove

Grove explained that the Student Affairs Committee has recruited new members over the course of the 2016-2017 year, that they have been active, and that the Executive Committee may appoint them officially to the committee rather than asking the Faculty Senate to elect them.

Moved by Vicki Grove on behalf of the BFA Nominations and Elections Committee, and seconded by Rolf Norgaard, that the Executive Committee appoint Gail Ramsberger and Deborah Whitehead to the BFA Student Affairs Committee.

The motion passed with none opposed and no abstentions.

Libraries Committee, Chair Phil Chang

Chang distributed a draft of a resolution [addendum] in support of a full-time Libraries advancement officer. He commented that Libraries has not had a full time advancement officer since 2008.

Discussion followed. Questions included how the position would be funded. The Executive Committee will ask Deb Coffin, Vice Chancellor for Advancement, to attend next Monday’s Executive Committee meeting to talk about advancement for the Libraries.

Budget and Planning Committee, Chair David Gross

Gross reported that UCB does not allow non-tenure track faculty to use a combination of banked classes and sick leave as a replacement for parental leave. Norgaard commented that UCB provides instructors with no parental leave: new parents must use sick leave instead. The Budget and Planning Committee will take the matter up because the BFA has eliminated its Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee.

IV. Open Forum

Gross asked for an update on the FCQ Committee. Piket-May reported that an all-online FCQ system will begin this fall, and the Committee is now working on a set of questions. The Committee is a system-level committee that is spear-headed by the Boulder Campus, with membership including UCB’s Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education. An article about the FCQ redesign appeared in
today’s issue of CU-Boulder Today.1 [More information is available on the FCQ Redesign Project website - http://www.colorado.edu/fcqredesign/progress/initial-fall-pilot-results.]

V. New Business, Continued

Gross reported that the Business School’s programs are changing to support four-year graduation rates, moving the Business School towards becoming a year-round institution. He commented that other Colleges and Schools may have similar challenges. Issues with the current summer school structure include controlling content, faculty compensation, and allocations of teaching loads. He proposed the BFA begin a campus-wide conversation about changing existing structures to ensure that control of each Unit’s summer school rests with that Unit. Piket-May responded that she will bring the issue up with the Provost.

Discussion followed. It was reported that there are significant structural issues around tuition, faculty compensation, and incentives in the summer school program. Gross reported that Summer School Dean Sarah Thompson has reported that there will be significant changes this summer. The Budget and Planning Committee will follow up with her.

Kaempfer commented that one of the ideas coming out of UCB’s Flagship 2030 plan was to move to a year-round campus model, and that the idea was unpopular with faculty. Neupauer added that Departments have insufficient space and departmental resources to offer the full catalog year round. Gross commented that UCB’s undergraduate advisors are counseling lower division students to take fewer credits each semester, spreading their course load over three semesters.

VI. Brief Committee Reports

Student Affairs Committee, Co-Chair Aaron Roof

- The Committee has two main topics this semester: First Year Seminars; and Honor Council.
- Honor Council is revising its policies and procedures.
  Discussion arose including these items of feedback:
  Faculty are frustrated when Honor Code hearings conflict with a faculty member’s schedule, preventing their participation.
  Investigations should not be pursued in cases of peer-on-peer accusations when the faculty member involved does not think it is an issue.
The Student Affairs Committee has reviewed the initial draft, recommended changes which were adopted, and approved the draft. Roof will distribute the draft to the Executive Committee with substantive changes highlighted.
- The Faculty Advisor to the Honor Code is no longer a paid position but it should be. The Committee is meeting with student leaders and the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs to discuss how compensation could be provided.
- The Committee has heard a report on First Year seminars from the Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education. Most people are in agreement with the goal of the first year experience initiative and with the seminars as part of that umbrella.

1 http://www.colorado.edu/today/2017/03/13/fcq-redesign-initial-pilot-results-and-upcoming-changes
There may be miscommunication about whether faculty are involved in the process.

There may be issues with approval of core credit for the seminars.

The Vice Chancellor is very interested in getting faculty involved in the process. The Student Affairs Committee plans to serve as advisors on the initiative.

The pilot program began this semester. It will continue with 45 courses this fall.

In discussion, it was reported that some faculty are having trouble getting students to show up for the seminars.

Budget and Planning, Chair David Gross

- Last semester the Committee requested the Provost create a lab start-up cost task force, but has heard no response. Piket-May will bring up the issue with the Provost.
- At last Monday’s BFA Executive Committee meeting it was suggested that the BFA Committee has structural issues affecting communication, similar to those of the Academic Affairs Budget Advisory Committee. Kaempfer suggested that over the summer the Campus’ budget leaders meet as a group to set the agenda for the two committees for the coming year (the BFA Budget and Planning Committee Chair, the CFO, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Planning, the Provost, and possibly the newly elected BFA Chair).

Administrative Services and Technology Committee, Chair John Hoover

OIT is moving forward with its process of selecting a new Learning Management System (LMS). The Committee met today to talk about how well OIT has distributed the results of its LMS survey. The Committee is concerned that OIT will make a decision to replace or retain D2L without enough input from some colleges and schools. Bids have gone out, with a due date of March 20th.

Discussion followed.
- It was generally agreed that the results of OIT’s survey, reported at the March BFA meeting, were inconclusive.
- AST should bring its concerns, and the results of the survey, to the Dean’s Council, the Academic Affairs Advisory Committee, and the Council of Associate Deans.
- AST should make contact with Janet Casagrand, a BFA appointee to the OIT Committee that is talked with making the final decision.

VII. BFA Presentation to the Chancellor’s Executive Committee Wednesday March 22nd

Piket-May requested Committee Chairs forward to her key pieces of information from their committees, explaining and illustrating how the BFA has an impact on Campus.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Piket-May adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sierra Swearingen-Todd, BFA Coordinator.