

**Faculty Executive Committee Meeting  
Minutes  
Tuesday, September 14, 2004**

Present: Michel-André Bossy (Chair), James Egan, Anne Fausto-Sterling, Donald Forsyth, Nancy Jacobs, William Rakowski, Michael Rosen, Chung-I Tan, Esther Whitfield, Andrew Brem

Guests: Russell Carey, Brian Casey, Connie Sadler, Todd Winkler

Professor Bossy called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. after which introductions followed.

Professor Bossy gave a Chair's Report. A serious issue involving the Tenure, Promotions and Appointments Committee (TPAC) was resolved shortly after a TPAC retreat early in September. There was lengthy discussion during the retreat regarding TPAC procedures which the Dean of the Faculty and Provost will be discussing with the President again on Friday.

Professor Bossy attended yesterday's MFEC meeting where voting rights for medical faculty in the clinical educator track was discussed. If voting rights are granted to this group, the FEC will be involved in the implementation process since this action will require a change to the Faculty Rules and Regulations. The MFEC also discussed a draft of the University's proposed Intellectual Property Policy which will also be coming before the FEC for discussion.

Professor Forsyth was the FEC representative on the Policy Committee for the Banner Polaris Project which met over the summer. The Committee was chaired by Associate Provost Nancy Dunbar and researched commercial vendors that would handle various procedures within the University such as course registration, cross-listing courses, admissions, etc. Professor Forsyth noted that the commercial commitment has been finalized, which will gradually be phased into existence. It was suggested that Nancy Dunbar be asked to make a presentation on this project at a faculty meeting in the near future.

Professor Todd Winkler was invited to discuss a proposal from the Music Department for a new Ph.D. Program in Computer Music and Multimedia. Brown currently has a successful M.A. Program in Computer Music and Multimedia with 10 students enrolled for 2004-05. This proposal suggests changing Brown's current graduate program rather than creating a new one and was approved by the Graduate Council at the end of last semester. The revised program will have a connection with RISD. Professor Winkler noted that the number of graduate applicants continues to grow and this is a fast-growing area world-wide. He drew the FEC's attention to several changes in the program since it was approved the end of last semester and offered further clarification. After some discussion, the FEC agreed to bring the proposal to the faculty at the October 5 faculty meeting.

Professor Chung-I Tan announced that the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) met this morning and elected Professor Peter Weber as Chair and Professor Nicholas Townsend, Vice Chair. Professor Townsend will chair the committee next academic year. Professor Tan reviewed some of the issues discussed at this morning's meeting including staff support for the FAC and the importance of the Dean of the Faculty's attendance at FAC meetings. Professor Bossy asked if the FAC would consider undertaking some new things such as the ombudsman issue and the Intellectual Property Policy. Professor Tan noted that the first order of business for the FAC is to arrange a meeting with the Dean of the Faculty. The FEC stressed the importance of the Dean of the Faculty's involvement with the FAC and decided to revisit the issue at a later date.

Brian Casey, Provost's office and Russell Carey, President's office, were invited to discuss proposed revisions to the Faculty Rules and Regulations regarding procedures for creating new academic departments, programs, centers, and institutes. They reviewed the proposed revisions to the language explaining that the Fellows would play a role in the process. A new proposal for a department, program, center or institute would go to the Dean of the Faculty first, followed by the Provost, and finally the Academic Priorities Committee (APC). Either the Dean of Faculty or the Provost can designate a faculty committee to review certain proposals. If the APC approves the proposal, it would then go to the President who would bring it to the Board of Fellows.

Lengthy discussion ensued with regard to the faculty's role in the proposed process. The FEC would like to see the faculty involved early on in the process at a time when it really matters. It was suggested the APC publish the issues or proposals as soon as they come forward so faculty can have input early on in the decision-making. The FEC also felt it was not clear what the President's role is prior to the open vote. It was also suggested the language clarify what happens if there is a "no" in the process. The manner in which the language currently reads suggests a "rolling yes" throughout the entire procedure. Brian Casey and Russell Carey will take the FEC's advice into consideration and return at a later date with an edited version of the proposal.

The FEC discussed committee replacements for the Tenure, Promotions and Appointments Committee (TPAC), the Grievance Committee, and the Subcommittee on Diversity in Hiring (SDH). Professor Bossy will contact several individuals suggested by the Committee.

Connie Sadler, Director of Information Technology Security, joined the FEC for a brief discussion about the CIRT Authority Policy Review, a policy related to computer behavior. She noted that it empowers CIS to filter and shut down problem computers and disconnect them from the Web. There was some discussion after which the FEC suggested the policy be reviewed by the Computing Advisory Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Moreau  
Secretary