

## **BROWN UNIVERSITY**

### **Minutes of Faculty Meeting—November 1, 2005**

President Simmons called the meeting to order at about 4:05 PM.

The customary motion to adjourn at 6:00 PM was made, seconded, and approved. The minutes of the meeting of October 11, 2005 were approved.

President Simmons spoke to the Faculty. She noted the absence of refreshments and asked if such was a budgetary measure—it appears not to be. October was a busy month with Parents Weekend, Alumni Leadership Weekend, the Campaign Kickoff, and Corporation meetings. She thanked faculty members who participated and noted the positive feedback from people who attended forums. Alumni want to see faculty. Parents don't want to leave campus after Parents Weekend.

She shared some specific highlights of the Corporation meeting. The Mayor joined the Strategic Session and provided an overview of the progress made since he assumed office. The Budget and Finance Committee discussed the report that considered the impact of college costs on students and their families and the implications for financial aid policies. Brown has taken steps in recent years to strengthen financial aid, reduce the average loan burden for students, and eliminate work for first year students. The discussion will help set a context for the consideration of tuition and fees by the Corporation in February. The goal for Boldly Brown: The Campaign for Academic Enrichment was announced as \$1.4 billion. The President stressed the importance of Annual Giving and was gratified that the Chancellor and Vice-Chairs had presented her at the kickoff dinner with a check for \$3.5 million as part of Annual Giving.

The President then turned the meeting over to Vice President Beppie Huidekoper, who presented a quick and meaty overview of the budgets. Some highlights of the presentation follow. FY05 was a very good year financially. It was expected that the Education & General budget would require \$9 million from reserves but, in fact, only \$5 million was required. The Medical School was similarly successful. Auxiliary Enterprises earned significant revenue for the University. The endowment return was 13.3% and the amount of funds recovered from Indirect Cost Recovery increased. We received \$113 million in cash gifts. Vice President Huidekoper then reviewed the FY 06 budget. It is better than expected because more students are on campus—fewer took leaves to study abroad—and we are doing better with Indirect Cost Recovery. On the other hand, the endowment has not increased as much as expected and utility costs will be \$3 million higher than expected. Campaign pledges are higher than expected to date but cash receipts lower. Conservation measures will be implemented to reduce utility costs. We should end the year close to our original budget. The overall budget model for the next few years was also reviewed. Utility costs will create a \$4-\$6 million impact. The Student Information System will add another \$1.6 million annually to the budget. She concluded by pointing out how much has been accomplished to date with \$45 million added to undergraduate and graduate student aid and new faculty. She delineated the new sources of funds to support these efforts.

Prof. Pelcovits asked about the \$1.6 million cost for the Student Information System—this is the annual cost. Mr. Patterson asked about the cost of debt service—it is about 4%.

President Simmons expressed appreciation for what Vice President Huidekoper is doing and noted the equally high appreciation of the members of the Budget and Finance committee. She

also commented that at the Corporation Investment Committee a request was made to divest stocks of companies working in the Sudan. The Committee felt this issue deserves wider discussion, so it will be brought up at the next meeting of the Brown University Community Council. Another issue to be considered at the BUCC is workplace standards at factories producing university apparel.

Provost Zimmer spoke next. He noted the appointment of a new artistic director at Trinity. This person will lead the Brown-Trinity Consortium. He said that Vice President Van Dam will be stepping down and a search committee is being formed. Three other major searches are in progress, for the Director of the Watson Institute, the John Carter Brown Library, and the Molecular Biology Laboratory. The NRC Survey of Graduate Education is happening. We will have to live with the results for a decade or so we should pay attention. He will send a concrete memo about the process of preparing for the survey. As part of the process, faculty and departments will be encouraged to revise their web pages. He gave an update on the tenure review process. He has had conversations with FEC and TPAC on the tenure process. Three steps will facilitate this process.

- Timeliness
- Communication between the Provost and TPAC, not only when a disagreement exists
- Communication with the candidate

Prof. Hermance asked what resources would be available to help faculty members with their web sites—the web office will be available to faculty members desiring help. Another question asked about help for clinical faculty—the intent is to move eventually to the clinical faculty but first to work with faculty involved with the NRC review. Prof. Valente asked about a timetable for completing web pages, will departments be contacted? Mike Chapman, leading the web effort, said three lead departments will be completed shortly. Faculty members can now go to Vice President Van Dam's site and get templates. The intention is to complete all web pages this academic year. Prof. Bergeron asked when the NRC survey would begin—this summer. She also commented that the templates made the process easy. Prof. Hermance noted that some of the most exciting web pages were created by individual faculty members.

Prof. Pelcovits spoke for the FEC. A search committee is being formed for the new Ombudsperson. He urged faculty to complete the Committee Preference forms; if such were misplaced they can be downloaded. He noted an upcoming meeting of the ElderBears and invited all to attend. The speaker will be Provost Emeritus Maurice Glicksman. He then discussed the latest meeting of the three FEC officers with the Board of Fellows. The main subject of discussion was the Capital Campaign, faculty involvement in it, and the Table of Needs. Two other items were the status of the relationship between the Provost and TPAC and the status of the Ombudsperson. The Board of Fellows brought up a new item—assessment of faculty productivity and visibility. The Fellows are aware of the problems involved in doing this and realize a single measure is probably not appropriate. Prof. Pelcovits then introduced Prof. Michael Steinberg, new director of the Cogut Humanities Center. Prof. Steinberg invited all faculty members to an upcoming meeting at the Center.

President Simmons pointed out that the Board of Fellows is simply collecting data, not doing a study. They are looking at other aspects of the University, not only the faculty. Prof. Tan asked for clarification—one purpose of collecting data is to share it with other universities. Prof. Bossy said that what emerges will not be a single yardstick. Prof. Spoehr commented that the Corporation had always wanted a dashboard. Prof. Hermance commented that this was an opportunity for faculty members to show how functional the faculty was. Prof. Valente said

better integration was needed between the faculty and the Corporation. He suggested a member of the faculty be a member of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Corporation. Russell Carey said the charter of the Corporation did not preclude such membership but it would be highly unusual as the Corporation basically employs faculty members. Both students and non-academic staff have made formal requests to serve on the Corporation.

Prof. Spoehr spoke for the Committee on Nominations, thanking the members of the Committee and also faculty members who had served beyond their designated time during this transition. She read the list of faculty members nominated to serve on committees; the list is appended to the original of these minutes. The nominations were approved on a voice vote.

Prof. Colwill presented the report of the University Resources Committee. The report had been distributed with the meeting agenda. Prof. Colwill noted that Vice President Huidekoper had discussed the finances admirably and she would only discuss the Committee's process. She noted the information gathering aspect of the Committee's work and the existence of open forums to learn the sentiments of members of the campus community. No questions were asked.

Dean Vohra presented the report of the Faculty Development Advisory Board. The report had been distributed with the meeting agenda. He noted this was the first report of the Committee. The Committee has dealt with, among other things, faculty lectureships and mentorships. He reported that the work of the Committee in some ways overlaps with that of the Faculty Affairs Committee and he explained how the roles have been made distinct. Prof. Savage commented on how new department chairs could be mentored.

No Old Business existed. No New Business was brought before the Faculty.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barrett Hazeltine  
Secretary of the Faculty

**COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS  
REPORT TO THE FACULTY**

**FOR PRESENTATION AT THE NOVEMBER 1, 2005  
FACULTY MEETING**

***NOMINATIONS RECOMMENDED TO THE FACULTY FOR COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:***

***Appointments to be effective immediately:***

**COLLEGE CURRICULUM COUNCIL**

Lynne deBenedette (Slavic Languages) replacing Kikuko Yamashita (East Asian Studies) to June 30, 2008.

Sally Zierler (Community Health) replacing Thomas Doepfner (Computer Science) to June 30, 2008.

Daniel Kim (English) filling a slot in which he was already a temporary replacement to June 30, 2008.

**TENURE, PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

Philip Rosen (Modern Culture & Media) replacing Rey Chow (Modern Culture & Media), on leave, to June 30, 2006.

William Simmons (Anthropology) replacing Frances Goldscheider (Sociology), on leave, to June 30, 2006.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY IN INVESTMENT POLICIES**

Glen Loury (Economics) replacing Harold Ward (Environmental Studies) to June 30, 2007.

Paul Hess (Geological Sciences) replacing Harvey Silverman (Engineering) to June 30, 2008.

**COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Joan Richards (History) replacing Lori Boardman (OB-GYN) to June 30, 2008.

Michael Tarr (Cognitive and Linguistic Sciences) replacing Elizabeth Harrington (Medicine) to June 30, 2008.

**COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL FACULTY APPOINTMENTS**

Richard Gould (Anthropology) replacing Peter Richardson (Engineering) to June 30, 2008.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ACADEMIC CODE**

Lawrence Wakeford (Education) replacing Maggie Bickford (History of Art & Architecture) to June 30, 2008.

William T. Suggs (Chemistry) replacing Martha Ucci (English) to June 30, 2008.

**GRADUATE COUNCIL**

Tamar Katz (English) filling a current vacancy to June 30, 2008.

James Anderson (Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences) replacing Dale Mierke (MPPB) to June 30, 2008.

**FACULTY RESUMED UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION POLICY AND ADMISSION  
COMMITTEE**

William T. Suggs (Chemistry) filling a current vacancy to June 30, 2008.

**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC STANDING**

Ross Kraemer (Religious Studies) replacing Steven Rabson (East Asian Studies) to June 30, 2007.

David Paine (Engineering) replacing Lynne deBenedette (Slavic Languages) to June 30, 2008.

Caroline Karp (Environmental Studies) replacing Gregory Elliott (Sociology) to June 30, 2008.

**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS**

Greg Landsberg (Physics) replacing Elizabeth Taylor (English) to June 30, 2008.