

**UNIVERSITY OF DENVER****Faculty Senate****May 6, 2005****Noon – 1:30 p.m.****Mary Reed Building, Renaissance Room South**

**Senators (or their proxy) present:** Bill Anderson, Elizabeth Anderson, Davor Balzar, Dennis Barrett, Arthur Best, David Christophel, Corey Ciocchetti, Lisa Conant, Jenny Cornish, David Cox, Ron DeLyser, Fran Dickson, Sandra Dixon, James Gilroy, Deborah Greal, Jim Hagler, Shannen Hill, Don Hughes, Beth Karlsgodt, Brian Kately, Christina Kreps, Corinne Lengsfeld, Michael Levine-Clark, Don McCubbrey, Ved Nanda, Lynn Parker, Cathryn Potter, Catherine Reed, Dean Saitta, Nancy Sampson, Jack Sheinbaum, Javier Torre, John Tripp, Gordon Von Stroh, Diane Waldman, Tim Weaver, Todd Wells, Margaret Whitt, Yavuz Yasar

**Call to order**

Cathryn Potter, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at noon and welcomed everyone present. The minutes for April 8, 2005 were approved with the caveat that Senators may contact Jenny Cornish ([jcornish@du.edu](mailto:jcornish@du.edu)) with any changes.

**Administrative Evaluations (President Cathryn Potter)**

Pres. Potter announced that the on-line administrative evaluations have yielded a 32% return rate this year, up from 25% last year, but unfortunately not representative of a strong and coherent faculty voice. The data is currently being analyzed and will be shared with the Senate in the near future. Tinka Crosby will update Faculty Senate website links to the results of administrative evaluations from prior years.

**Brief Branding Update**

Pres. Potter stated that the Provost feedback on branding is that there have been many interesting suggestions put forward, but he wishes there was more focus on university-wide considerations from the branding groups. In addition, academics need to be emphasized more strongly. The University Planning Committee (UPAC) will meet this afternoon with the Deans and other higher administrators to begin strategic planning, particularly integrating branding into the university values, vision, and mission. Pres. Potter pointed out that resources will be allocated for some branding proposals, and reiterated her call for faculty to be involved in the branding committees.

**Nominations, Credentials and Rules (Senator Dennis Barrett)**

Sen. Barrett accepted nominations for the following positions:

- Faculty at Large (nominated by faculty, elected by Faculty Senate): Ron DeLyser, Matthew Taylor, Nancy Sampson, and Dean Saitta
- Faculty Senate President-Elect (one year appointment): Ron DeLyser, Dean Saitta, and Margaret Whitt
- Chair, Financial Planning Committee: David Longbrake
- Editor, *Faculty Forum*: Margaret Whitt

Sen. Barrett also announced that he will accept nominations during the next Faculty Senate meeting for a Senator at Large on the Executive Committee, and for a faculty representative on the Faculty and Educational Affairs Committee for the Board of Trustees (FEAC). David Christophel and Andy Devine will continue as faculty Senators on FEAC next year. Sen. Barrett asked Senators to contact him at [dbarrett@du.edu](mailto:dbarrett@du.edu) with further nominations. During the June Faculty Senate meeting, nominees will give brief speeches and elections will be held.

**Senate Discussion (President Cathryn Potter)**

President Potter led the Senators in a discussion of the future of the university and probable issues facing the next Senate President. The following issues were raised:

- The need to increase the endowment for a variety of reasons including programming, attracting quality students, raising salaries, etc. The Chancellor has announced an \$800 million capital drive

- to increase the endowment from the current \$170 million to \$1 billion. Pros and cons of involving faculty members in soliciting funds were discussed. Pres. Potter noted that several new positions have been given to Institutional Advancement to help with the endowment initiative.
- The appointment of a new Chancellor will undoubtedly impact faculty. Several Senators wondered about the current Chancellor continuing as Chair of the Board of Trustees and how this might affect the incoming Chancellor. Pres. Potter reassured the Senators that Chancellor Ritchie and the Board members have discussed this issue at length.
  - The need to increase faculty morale and the need for the Faculty Senate President to be involved in retreats conducted by the Board of Trustees.
  - The need for big thinking/big ideas; increased intellectual discussions for faculty in a way that is inclusive and crosses traditional boundaries.
  - The desire across campus to increase the university's national academic reputation.

#### **Announcements and New Business:**

- Sen. DeLeyser announced that the Teaching Task Force anticipates three more meetings to finish developing a matrix for evaluating teaching, mentoring, advising, and outreach. The Task Force hopes to have a report by June.
- Sen. Christophel announced that the second round of Faculty Research Funds resulted in awards for 13 proposals.
- Sen. Nanda announced that 35 small grants have been awarded by the Office of Internationalization.
- Sen. Wells announced that 30 nominations were put forward this year for faculty awards, a substantial increase from last year. The Adjunct Faculty Teaching award will go to Bradford Borton, the Methodist Scholar Teacher of the Year award to Peter Adler, the Distinguished Teaching award to Joe Hornbeck, the Distinguished Scholar award to Jack Donnelly, and the University Lecturer award to Barry Hughes.
- It was suggested that names of all awardees be mailed to the faculty via email, and should also be listed in the *Faculty Forum*.
- It was further suggested that the Personnel Committee develop guidelines for nominations materials, so that nominations packets would be more similar.
- In addition, investigating patterns over the years related to nominations and awards (e.g., more males than females) was recommended.

#### **Action Items**

- It was moved, seconded, and passed with one abstention to make nominations for faculty awards a two year process so that a faculty member nominated in one year will automatically be re-nominated the following year without having to re-submit materials.

#### **Adjournment**

President Potter adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m. and thanked everyone for their participation today.

#### **Respectfully submitted by:**

Tinka Crosby and Jenny Cornish