

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
Faculty Senate
March 10, 2006
Mary Reed Building, Renaissance Room South
Minutes

Senators (or their Proxy) present: Bill Anderson, Alvaro Arias, Dennis Barrett, Arthur Best, Marian Bussey, David Christophel, Bonnie Clark, Jenny Cornish, David Cox, Nick Cutforth, Davy Davis, Irvin Jones for Ron DeLyser, Andy Divine, Sandra Lee Dixon, Margo Espenlaub, Ronald Farina, Jim Gilroy, Deb Grealy, Michele Hanna, Beth Karlsgodt, Maciej Kumosa, Walter LaMendola, Michael Levine-Clark, Don McCubbrey, Lily Mendoza, Catherine Reed, Charles Reichardt, Dean Saitta, Martha Santos, Javier Torre, John Tripp, Gordon Von Stroh, Diane Waldman, Tim Weaver, Todd Wells, and Margaret Whitt.

Call to order

President Potter called the meeting to order at noon and welcomed everyone present. Barrett moved to approve the minutes from February 10, 2006, with the usual caveat that senators contact Cornish with necessary edits (jcornish@du.edu). This motion was seconded by Divine and **passed unanimously**.

Update on campus searches

- **Provost Search: Saitta**
Saitta reported that there are four finalists for the provost position: Gregg Kvistad, Interim Provost at DU; Mary Fennell, Chair of the Sociology Department and former Dean of the College of Arts and Science at Brown University; Lester Monts, Associate Provost at the University of Michigan; and Uday Sukhatme, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at SUNY-Buffalo. Their application materials may be accessed online at the DU Portfolio Community. He reassured senators that the search is not a “done deal” and further explained that Chancellor Coombe will meet with the search committee members to discuss the candidates following their visits to the campus. Potter informed the senators that the Senate Executive Committee has been given a separate hour to meet with each candidate.
- **Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Search: Christophel**
Christophel described the search process for the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement. The search firm put forward 12 candidates for review; the committee chose six to interview via telephone early next week. Both local and national candidates are included in the pool. Finalists may be on campus during spring break. As with the Provost search, Coombe will meet with the search committee to discuss the candidates after their campus visits.
- **Dean of Sturm College of Law Search: Potter**
Potter stated that the three candidates for the Dean of the Sturm College of Law: Martin H. Belsky, University of Minnesota Law School; Jim Chen, University of Minnesota Law School; and Jose Roberto Juarez, St. Mary’s University School of

Law. They will be at DU and available for open meetings on March 13, March 16, and April 3.

University Awards: Wells

Wells encouraged the senators to provide nominations for university awards to the Personnel Committee and explained that nominees from the previous year who did not receive awards will now be automatically carried forward into the current year. The deadline for 2006 nominations is in two weeks. Potter stated that candidates stand a better chance of winning an award when their nomination is from a unit that has nominated faculty members for many or all of the awards. Whitt recommended posting information about the awards on the Faculty Senate website (<http://www.du.edu/facsen/n>) and Wells agreed to do so. Wells also suggested that anyone with questions about the preferred content for nominations letters contact him (towels@du.edu or 303-871-2937). He further stated that the Personnel Committee will continue to consider improvements for the awards process.

Requests from New Director of Parking: Potter

Potter announced that Buddy Knox has been hired as the new Director of Parking at DU. Knox previously ran the parking system at the University of Texas at Austin and has requested faculty involvement in two areas: 1) a new faculty advisory group on parking policy and 2) a faculty/staff group to consider “second level” appeals (to build on the current system in which a single staff member decides parking appeals). Senate members discussed several problems with parking (including lack of professionalism among parking enforcers) and how such problems lower faculty morale. Davy remembered being on a parking appeals group many years ago that consisted of an undergraduate and a graduate student and two faculty members; that committee only met for one hour each year. Senators agreed that the two requests from Knox should be considered by the Personnel Committee and, further, that everyone should ask faculty members in their units to consider joining the two proposed groups.

Old Business

- Health coverage: Potter reminded senators that Dick Gartrell, Director of Human Resources at DU, will attend the Faculty Senate on April 7 to discuss the issue of health insurance for employees. Pacific Care apparently no longer desires to continue its contract with DU, so Kaiser Permanente will probably be the only option for employees, although there may be additional choices within Kaiser.
- Professional Research Opportunities for Faculty (PROF): Potter stated that she and Jim Moran, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Research, have been collecting reports from the first round of grant recipients. The final account from the initial PROF grants will be distributed in August or September. Today is the deadline for current grant requests. Whitt informed the senators that there are 11 proposals from Arts and Humanities this year, and 16 from the rest of the university, for a total of only 27 proposals, half the number of submissions received last year.

New Business

- Potter discussed the nomination made by Jim Davis to Kvistad as well as to herself, proposing that Bill Zaranka be given the status of Provost Emeritus. Senators agreed that it would seem more appropriate for the Senate to vote on this nomination than it would for the full faculty to take such a vote. Whitt moved that the Senate vote on this nomination; this was seconded by Divine. However, several senators raised questions about the nomination including the issue of administrative versus faculty emeritus status and further the tradition that chancellors emeriti at the university have been fully retired when they have received such status. Senators agreed that the Nominations, Credentials, and Rules Committee should consider this subject, gathering information related to emeritus categories among other major universities. Barrett agreed to provide such information by the next meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on March 31. **Motion to vote on the nomination deferred** until the April 7 Faculty Senate meeting.
- *DU Magazine* article regarding life sciences initiative: Wells shared that an inaccurate article was published in this publication, inferring that a new program has been established enabling premedical students to earn both bachelors and masters degrees in four years. Further, similar incorrect information has been published in other DU venues. The proposal for a four-year BA/MA was actually voted down 13 to 1 by the entire unit and has not been approved by the division, or by either Undergraduate Council or Graduate Council. It was agreed to send this matter to the Academic Planning Committee with the recommendation that the Director of the Molecular Life Sciences program be contacted, and in addition, that a note be sent to the *Magazine* asking for a retraction of the article. The Academic Planning Committee was also asked to consider whether checks and balances are currently operating as planned in the undergraduate and graduate council meetings.
- Board of Trustees Faculty and Educational Affairs Committee (FEAC): Several senators questioned why the Chair of the Board wanted to meet with only the Trustees (and no faculty members) prior to each recent committee meeting, and whether this might indicate his desire for a more activist Board. The need to reinvigorate the G9-11 group was suggested, but Potter stated this is on hold pending reorganization of the University Planning and Advisory Council (UPAC).

Adjournment

Cox moved to adjourn; this was seconded by Barrett, and **passed unanimously**, thus President Potter adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m., and thanked everyone for their helpful participation.

Respectfully submitted:

Jenny Cornish, Senate Secretary