

**University of Denver
Faculty Senate
May 11, 2007
Mary Reed Building, Renaissance Room South
Minutes**

Senators (or their Proxy) present: Bill Anderson, Alvaro Arias, Rick Barbour, Rodney Buxton, Victor Castellani, David Cox, Nick Cutforth, Ron DeLyser, Sandra Eaton, Margo Espenlaub (Exec. Secretary), James Gilroy, Deb Grealy, Michele Hanna, John Hill, Michael Karson, Mike Keables, Brian Kiteley, Gregg Kvistad (Provost), Frank Laird, Rick Leaman, Michael Levine-Clark, Mario Lopez, Seth Masket, Don McCubbrey, Lily Mendoza, Robert Mill, Mia Mulvey, Rahul Nair, Ved Nanda, Paul Novak, Scott Phillips, Charles Reichardt, Dean Saitta (President), Nancy Sampson, Buck Sanford (proxy for Susan Sadler), Gordon von Stroh, Tim Weaver, Todd Wells, Margaret Whitt, and Yavuz Yasar.

Call to Order

Dean Saitta, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order at noon and welcomed everyone present. A motion to approve (with corrections) the minutes from April 6, 2007 was seconded and approved.

NCR Business

Pres. Saitta altered the regular order of Senate business so Sen. Grealy, who had a meeting conflict, could announce the Notice of Elections, Nominations, and Preliminary Ballot. Sen. Grealy called for nominations from the floor. Senators Weaver, Gilroy, Leaman, and Von Stroh were nominated. Senator Levine-Clark and Whitt's names were already on the ballot. The following nominations were confirmed:

- **President Elect (2007-2008)** – Michael Levine-Clark;
- **Editor and moderator of the *Faculty Forum/Faculty Weblog*** (1 year) – Margaret Whitt;
- **Senator-at-large to the Executive Committee** (1 year) – Timothy Weaver, Yavuz Yassar;
- **Senate Representative to FEAC**, term ending 2010 (3 years) – James Gilroy, Rick Leaman;
- **Representative to Graduate Council** (Professional Schools) (3 years) – Gordon Von Stroh.

A motion to accept all nominations was made and seconded with a unanimous vote in favor (32), opposed (0), abstentions (0).

Pres. Saitta asked for a motion to vote on all three Administrator Emeritus/a nominations as a group: Deans Alter, Bloom, and Katz; and former Provost Zaranka. The motion was made and seconded with a unanimous vote in favor. A second motion was made to approve Emeritus/a status for these individuals. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The Senate recommendation will be forwarded to FEAC first and then the Board of Trustees.

Provost Kvistad announced his office's nomination of Sheila Wright as Vice Provost Emerita, in keeping with the policy previously approved by the Senate and FEAC.

Provost's Report

Deans Searches

Two dean search processes have been completed for two units: the Graduate School of Social Work (James Herbert Williams) and The Women's College (Lynn Gangone). Searches are in the last stages of completion for AHSS and NSM. The Provost said there is no news to report on the status of these searches; they will be completed by the end of May with a start date of July 1. Dean Gangone will begin on June 1 and Dean Williams will on June 15.

Enrollment

The undergraduate enrollment report shows deposits of 1,141 students for fall 2007. Last year (2006) there were 1,165 at this point and in 2005 there were 1,092. The Provost noted there had been no change in the academic profile of incoming students who have almost the exact same SAT scores as last year. DU is trying to attract students who have a lot of choices and, therefore, needs to be able to offer more need-based aid. Of incoming students, 43% require need-based aid. The tuition increase for next year is set at 6.075%. The University has added funds to augment need-based aid for returning students: 2% for sophomores, 4% for juniors, and 6% for seniors. Need-based aid is a major issue for the University, and the Board of Trustees is aware of it.

Student enrollment in the graduate schools is good and essentially at budget. A few programs – Law and International Studies – are capping enrollments. Concern is now shifting from enrollment numbers to the academic profile of admitted students.

Sen. Whitt asked if we need to accept more undergraduate students in order to get the numbers we need. The Provost answered yes, as the yield rate slipped slightly for the fall of 2007. He said there are 15 Boettcher scholars for next year with DU attracting the highest number in the state.

Honors Program Director Position

The Honors Program Review Committee recommendation for a full time director position was reviewed by the Chancellor and the Provost. They determined that a full time position would not be commensurate with the tasks associated with this position. The Chancellor and Provost have recommended that this be a half-time position. The Provost appreciates the recommendation from the review committee and to Sen. Levine-Clark for chairing the committee.

Campus transportation from the Light Rail Station

The Provost said that if the demand is great enough, service will be supplied by Safe Ride. The demand needs to filter up from students to Vice Chancellor Woody's office.

Evaluation Forms for University Services

The Provost addressed a question about standardized evaluation of University services. He noted that the Balanced Score Card report for the bookstore is sent to the Provost's office each quarter. This report is an extensive and detailed account of faculty book orders and book availability for students at the beginning of each quarter. The report is extensive in data and is a highly engineered value of service. There are measures in place about customer satisfaction. Campus Safety and many other units on campus also provide a Balanced Score Card report.

FY08 Budget

The Provost has completed the FY08 Budget Transmittal, which was presented to the Board of Trustees Finance and Budget Committee this week. It was approved. The budget will go to the Executive Committee and then to the full Board in early June.

The Provost pointed out three budget drivers:

(1) There is an attempt to put a brake on increases of pro forma resources for academic units.

The amount for fiscal year 2008 is half of last year because of our need to constrain expenses. This will be the topic of discussion for the next few years. Tuition rate and volume increases of the magnitude in the past are no longer possible, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. There is considerable downward pressure on tuition increases, which for private universities are typically well above the inflation rate.

(2) DU has allotted \$1.265 million for permanent faculty salary enhancements, which, we are aware, is the opposite of containing expenses. Everyone at the University, including the Board of Trustees, is concerned about our faculty salaries. The next step is working with deans over the summer to facilitate a process regarding faculty salary increases.

(3) Increased need-based aid for undergraduates (discussed earlier) is the third budget driver.

After the Board approves the budget for fiscal year 2008, it will be submitted to the faculty and staff at the end of the summer in the form of an annual report on the state of the University.

Pres. Saitta thanked Provost Kvistad for his report to the Faculty Senate.

Campus Safety Update

Provost Kvistad introduced Sgt. Stephen Banet, Crime Prevention Officer and Victim Services, from Campus Safety. Banet discussed the recently developed programs underway at DU to address safety issues in the wake of the Virginia Tech shooting. DU Campus Safety was asked to put together a two-fold classroom lock down procedure: (1) response of classroom personnel and (2) the type of response to expect from law enforcement. Banet said that since the 1999 Columbine shooting a paradigm shift has occurred regarding response procedures. Campus Safety has worked with Human Resources to create a power point presentation on incident response and security. This will be up and running next week.

Sen. Whitt asked how doors that open outward instead of inward in Sturm Hall could be secured. Banet said the cost is \$300 per door to redo locks. Campus Safety is looking into other ways of securing the doors with bolts at the top. At present, the response would be to pile furniture and chairs in front of the door. Provost Kvistad said a plan will be in place by fall 2007. There is also a plan in place to call 25,000 phones immediately contact via text messages and emails. Wireless displays in buildings are also being considered. These forms of notification will also be useful for snow closures.

Sen. Weaver asked about the chain of command. Banet said to call Campus Safety. There was a question about security alerts if cell phones are turned off in class by instructor request. Banet will look into this issue. Sen. Castellani asked about staff volunteer responsibilities in buildings.

The Provost said DU had previously developed staff-trained volunteers to look for out-of-place items in buildings. With the recent bomb scare in Sturm, this plan has been abandoned. There are trained bomb experts to deal with bomb alerts. DPD District 3 spoke at the Building and Grounds Committee meeting. Sen. Yasar asked if students have 2nd Amendment rights. The answer was no, that students cannot possess any firearms on campus.

Pres. Saitta thanked Sgt. Banet for his report to the Faculty Senate.

Center for Teaching and Learning

Julanna Gilbert, CTL Director, discussed the formation of individual Teaching Task Force committees and the history of the TTF. Specific recommendations came out of the report with discussion among faculty and deans. The outcome was that units would set up committees to look into their own practices. Most have involved support from the CTL. From Winter through Spring 2007, Gilbert has met with most unit committees so they have a system in place that supports their evaluations of teaching such as supporting classroom videotaping. The CTL is also looking for ways centralized support and have set up a committee to inform the CTL.

Se. Kitley asked about sample syllabi for faculty. Gilbert said the CTL has teaching resources on their website. Sen. Reichardt asked if there were videos of teaching prototypes. The answer was no.

Pres. Saitta asked if students have approached the CTL regarding webcasting. Gilbert said the CTL has a group of people looking at systems including Blackboard. With videotaping, it is very difficult to collect all that goes on in a classroom. Information on teaching and learning is very difficult to collect. Gilbert discussed the Student Response Systems (clickers) and their value in the classroom and to students' learning. In some instances clickers have helped with test anxiety and the belief that there are only right or wrong answers to questions in class.

Gilbert said the CTL's goal is to identify and list common elements of need through discussion with a central teaching committee. Pres. Saitta inquired about next steps and if there would be some kind of general rubric developed for use across campus, which was the Chancellor's original aim when he established the TTF as Provost. Gilbert said that unit evaluations will yield the necessary information. At that point the CTL will provide professional development support.

Pres. Saitta thanked Director Gilbert for her report to the Faculty Senate.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work Task Force Report

Sen. Levine-Clark reported on the Academic Planning Committee's discussion of the RSCW Task Force Report. He said there were tremendous differences between disciplines in terms of need, so it does not make sense for a University-wide committee to make recommendations. Discussion of research also should be unit-based, perhaps via separate task forces. In any case, it is important to talk about the Teaching Task Force Report in conjunction with the RSCW report because good research informs good teaching. Support from the top down is needed with money, time, and articulation of ways that help people do better research. None of this can be done without money. Sabbaticals and grants need to be justified in a faculty report, showing how time and money are used. Sen. Levine-Clark said it is important to show what we do,

especially to prospective students and faculty. Accountability is troubling to some because this is difficult to evaluate in a fair way.

Pres. Saitta said the accountability question is important to the Chancellor, who asked at a recent FEAC meeting what the faculty are willing to be accountable for. Sen. Kiteley said the annual reports faculty write do serve as accountability reports. Faculty might consider adding language to that but he did not think more was needed.

Sen. Yasar expressed a concern about transparency and clarity in tenure and promotion deliberations. The university makes multiple demands around teaching, research, and service, which involves trade-offs. Junior faculty in general are concerned about the “squeeze” that this creates. Sen. Levine-Clark responded that this was a good question that requires further discussion.

Sen. Laird commented that it seemed easier to get resources to develop expertise in a particular field but not work that takes faculty outside of their comfort zone of research. Moving outside the zone takes time and does not show a tangible result as quickly.

Sen. Mendoza expressed a concern about the “corporate model” that appears to inform the RSCW report. This suggests that we are intent on producing an educational commodity.

Pres. Saitta said it was good to get these issues out on the table for further discussion with faculty and deans. The Provost agreed that we should spend next fall discussing what the Senate, faculty, and academic leadership can agree upon.

Pres. Saitta reminded the Senate that the *Faculty Forum* weblog is available as one venue where faculty can express their thoughts about this, and other, issues. A couple of analyses of the RSCW Report have already been posted and comments are open.

Adjournment

Sen. Cox made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Sen. Keables and passed. President Saitta adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m. and thanked everyone for their participation today.

Respectfully submitted by

Margo Espenlaub, Faculty Senate Executive Secretary