

Minutes
College of Education Faculty Advisory Council
February 14, 2003
SWT – Jowers Building – Room A115

Members in Attendance:

Nathan Bond, Deborah Buswell, Roxane Cuellar-Allsup, Elizabeth Erickson, Susan Field Waite, Linda Homeyer, Marla McGhee, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Alicia Paredes Scribner, John Walker, Jo Webber

Members Absent:

Russ Hodges, Mo Johnson, Sharon O’Neal, Bobby Patton

Guests:

Gay James

FAC Chair Webber called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

I. Approval of the Minutes from January 31, 2003

Dr. Jovita Ross-Gordon moved to rework the minutes and resend the minutes to all FAC members. Beth Erickson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

II. Old Business:

A. Establish 1-2 year priorities

The FAC examined three documents: the issues and concerns mentioned in the first FAC meetings, the College of Education’s Vision, and the FAC’s Constitution. The members discussed several topics on which they might focus during the next calendar year. The FAC considered the budget issue and the related processes, such as class size and workload; restructuring; communication and trust among all members in the College of Education; and the functional nature of FAC’s advisory role, such as the committee structure, the FAC structure and governance.

.B. Publication of the FAC’s Priorities and Functions

The FAC discussed ways to clarify its priorities and function to the COE faculty and chairs. Dr. Field Waite volunteered to oversee of the FAC’s website. The site will contain important communications, the FAC’s recommendations and other features.

C. Committee on Committees:

Drs. Webber, Paredes Scribner, Buswell and Erikson reported on the progress being made by the Committee of Committees. They shared the questions that will appear on three proposed surveys. The first survey, spearheaded by Dr. Paredes Scribner, will be given to the Chair of each department and will seek to identify the committees that are

currently operating in the department. Additional questions will examine the committee type, the mission or purpose of the committee, expected outcomes or products, composition of the members, and determination of the members.

The second survey, coordinated by Dr. Erickson, will be given to the committee chairs. Questions on this survey will explore the number of meetings, duration of meetings, labor intensity, access to clerical assistance, status, attendance, and value and impact of the committee.

Dr. Buswell will coordinate the third survey, which will be administered to the committee members. The survey will also include the committee's statement of purpose. The questions will focus on the member's participation level, perceived value of the committee, and length of service and impact of the committee's work on the department.

To ensure a greater response, confidentiality of the results must be guaranteed. In addition, the surveys will be short and easy to complete. Likert-scaled questions and check-offs will be used as much as possible. The surveys will be piloted before they are administered to the entire College. In addition, the use of the data will not be used to place evaluative judgments on people or programs. The results, however, can play an informative role in the decision-making process in the College.

D. Restructuring:

The Restructuring Committee met and decided on the following plan. One subcommittee will examine other universities that are "cutting edge" and similar in size to SWT. This committee will "think outside the box" and generate possible ways to restructure. The second subcommittee will talk to faculty members in each department and determine their interests, needs and issues. The committee will hold the departmental meetings before March 27th, the date for the next scheduled Restructuring Committee meeting. The third committee will focus on the issues that have arisen, the commonalities, pros and cons, recommendations and areas, such as equitable distribution of resources and efficiency concerns. The Restructuring Committee hopes to complete its work by December.

E. Relationship to Faculty Senators

Senator Gay James spoke and stated that the Faculty Senate wants to create a new evaluation for Chairs, Deans, Vice-Presidents. The new SWT evaluation should produce similar results as the current system of IDEA. Due to the budget, IDEA may be phased out. The Faculty Senate wants an SWT-made survey and wants input from the faculty and other groups such as the FAC. In fact, this year there will probably be two evaluation forms administered to the faculty, the new SWT-version and the old IDEA. The sections that ask for demographic information will be eliminated. Only statistical data, not written comments, will be made public.

The FAC discussed the usefulness of having one Senator attend the FAC meetings. It was decided that a Senator would attend at least one meeting per month.

III. New Business:

A. / B. Invitation to President Trauth and the Chairs

The FAC decided to postpone inviting President Trauth and Chairs to its meetings.

C. Meeting with Dean Beck

The FAC will hold its next meeting on February 28th from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Jowers A115. After the President's Investiture, Dean Beck will speak to the FAC. Workloads and the budget are two items that Dean Beck may want to address. Also, the FAC hopes that he will propose topics to share with the group.

The FAC decided to cancel its March 7th meeting.

Linda Homeyer moved that the FAC meeting be adjourned. Alicia Paredes Scribner seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Bond (C&I)
FAC Secretary