

Special Session August 26, 2005
FAC Minutes

In attendance: Mike Boone, Sarah Nelson, Moe Johnson, Maria de la Colina, Jo Webber, Gwynne Ash, Jennifer Battle, Steve Gordon, Dean Barrera, Colleen Connolly, Steve Furney, Bobby Patton, Annie Brooks

Steve Gordon called the meeting to order. The purpose of the meeting was to continue the discussion with Dean Barrera on the organizational structure for the administration of the College of Education.

A concern was voiced that there may be few or no applicants for the two proposed Associate Dean positions, and that if there are applicants, would they be the appropriate people for these positions since the search will be internal at the College.

Dean Barrera distributed a revision of the position description for the Associate Dean for Research and Development. She announced that this would be an opportunity for advancement for people in our college with interest in pursuing an administrative role. The position will be 75% time and there will be attention given to issues of diversity and equity in the selection. Dean Barrera stipulated that she will weigh and debate the suitability of each candidate nominated and that the Faculty Advisory Council will play a role in the process. It was proposed that two committees would be assembled consisting of:

1 faculty member from each department

1 department chair operating *ex-officio*

1 faculty member from outside college in our university setting (perhaps another associate dean from a different college)

Rank should also be considered in assembling the committee

A discussion was held as to how committee members are commonly chosen. It was reported that Dean Beck often used the FAC to select members for committees. Steve Gordon suggested that perhaps that FAC could select three of the members for each of the committees.

The job description for the Associate Dean for Research and Development was reviewed and discussed at length.

Dean Barrera stated that we need to identify the strands of distinction within the College of Education. This position will be instrumental in making this happen. Presently, the college has many separate programs that need to be pulled together. All the faculty “islands” need to work together. As a college, we lack the dialogue that informs everyone in the college what other people are doing. Dean Barrera would like this Associate Dean to serve as an advocate for faculty development in the college.

Jo Webber suggested that we should add grants acquisition as well as system information to the job description for this position.

Dean Barrera also stated that this Associate Dean would be charged with examining whether our research within the college dovetails with the goals of the University.

As a college, we need to be considering what identity we will forge for the College of Education. This will involve conducting a needs assessment, determining growth patterns, and examining the community we serve. Dean Barrera reminded us that we are four times the size of a typical Tier 2 university, with more students and less faculty, according to Levine's data.

Jo Webber brought up the fact that a faculty member from the College of Education has never won the Presidential Award for Scholarship.

Dean Barrera responded that we must be concerned with:

- reducing the faculty work load to accommodate for increase in scholarship requirements
- the numbers of students going through,
- the numbers of adjuncts
- our admission policy that should be comprised of multiple factors

It was suggested that Centers can be a good way to create opportunities for research teams to come together.

Dean Barrera suggested that, in addition, we must learn to leverage the money we do receive to get more money.

Since this position is a 75% time, the Associate Dean would also be expected to teach 1 course per long semester. It was suggested by several FAC members that, at least initially, this position may need to be a 100% time, due to the changes that will need to be set in place. Dean Barrera will see if such a request will be granted.

Steve Gordon suggested that we should add a statement to the job description that the Associate Dean should have a commitment to shared governance.

Dean Barrera will take our feedback and create a shorter document describing this position. Her timeline on this task is to release the job descriptions two weeks from now. Nominations will be made, and formal applications will be submitted for consideration.

Steve Gordon announced the next meeting of the Advisory Council for September 9th. The location of the meeting will be announced at a later date.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Battle, Vice Chair
Faculty Advisory Council