**MINUTES**

**FACULTY SENATE**

**April 21, 2010**

In attendance: Alexy, Allison, Alves, Bender, Benoit, Borland, BuSha, Curtis, Eberly, Edelbach, Heisler, Hernandez, Hunt, Jackson, Joshi, Kamber, Leake, Li, Lovett, McCarty, McMahan, Meola, Michels, Morin, Norvell, O’Connell, Petroff, Rao, Ruscio, Speaker, Steele, Steinberg, Tang, Vandegrift, Vivona, Wickramasinghe, and Winston.

Excused: Kang, SanPedro, and Tate.

Absent: Al-Omaishi, Didi-Ogren, and O’Brien.

OPEN FORUM – CFA

Jeanine Vivona presented three proposals from CFA: Process for evaluation of applications for SOSA, sabbatical, or MUSE; Faculty Accessibility Policy; Guidelines for Disciplinary Standards. Discussion and comments ensued.

PRESIDENT GITENSTEIN

President Gitenstein spoke on the current status of the budget and autonomy. She addressed questions from the senators and visitors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 17, 2010 meeting were accepted as distributed.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

* CPP – Mort Winston reported that CPP’s main project for this academic year has been writing of the Middle States Periodic Review Report. We held an Open Forum on the draft of this report on Monday April 12, 2010 and also solicited comments and suggestions by email. Several useful comments and suggestions were received and we are currently preparing a revised draft of the document and assembling its appendices. We anticipate being able to submit the final report and it supporting documentation before the June 1, 2010 deadline. At our meeting on April 14, 2010 CPP again took up the issue of a proposed honor statement or pledge proposed by the Student Government Association. CPP passed the following resolution concerning this proposal: “We support student government in their effort to create a non-binding, aspirational statement for TCNJ students, and we encourage CSCC to work through consideration of what this statement is to accomplish, how it will be used, and what it will say.”

We have also been actively discussing steering’s charge from President Gitenstein asking that CPP develop principles of prioritization for individual program closure decisions that will “preserve the integrity and excellence of the educational programs and services through which the College realizes its mission.” Steering requested that we treat charge with high priority. CPP held an extraordinary meeting on April 7th devoted to this matter, and will hold another extraordinary meeting on April 28th devoted to it. A subcommittee is drafting a policy recommendation that we hope to finalize in committee by the end of this month and present to the campus community in early May.

* CAP – John McCarty reported that at the April 14th meeting, the following actions occurred: 1. CAP approved the minor in Holocaust and Genocide Studies; 2. CAP approved the conversion of the specialization in biomedical engineering to full program (degree) status; 3. CAP discussed the proposed program closures (MEd. in Health Education, MEd. in Exercise and Physical Education, and M.S. in Educational Technology).  It was decided that more information and testimony be solicited from the stakeholders for both programs, as well as the deans of  the School of Education and Nursing, Health, and Exercise Science.
* CFA – Jeanine Vivona – 1. An open forum is being held today to receive feedback from faculty on the three issues discussed above; 2. CFA is working on a charge regarding the Promotion and Reappointment document (PRD) to: 1) develop procedures to follow when a candidate is not recommended for reappointment or promotion at any level, when there is disagreement between levels, or when there is an appeal; 2) consider whether there should be a role for the General Counsel; and 3) establish a time frame for regular review of the PRD and a mechanism for considering significant issues that arise between regular reviews. CFA will complete this work in Fall 2010; 3.CFA is reviewing recommended changes to the PRD and procedures from the CPC.
* CSCC – Wayne Heisler reported that: 1. CSCC is anticipating a charge from Steering to review a new student Code of Conduct. At their March 24 meeting, they hosted Angela Lauer Chong to review with them where the College stands regarding discipline policies and procedures, and where the College is going. By late May/early June, CSCC anticipates reviewing the draft for the new Conduct Code; 2. In light of the current review of College governance, CSCC is reviewing our charge in the context of the committee’s activities over the past several years. Question - is our current charge appropriate?; 3. Travel policy: CSCC is still awaiting the review by General Counsel; 4. CSCC is anticipating a review of proposed Honor Code from SGA, following recommendations by CPP.
* Board of Trustees – John Allison reported that the April 20, 2010, board meeting is the annual Tuition Hearing of the board. 1. The meeting began with special recognition for a Board member who is leaving. Dr. Poonam Alaigh has been appointed as a member of Governor Christie’s cabinet. 2. The board passed a resolution allowing continued participation in the US Dept. of Veteran’s Affairs Yellow Ribbon Program at TCNJ. It involves a tuition and fee “benefit” to eligible veterans. The Board authorized funds to support a maximum of ten students in this program. Currently we have one. 3. In the Tuition Hearing, the State budget, tuition cap, the College’s Statement and Principles concerning fees and tuition, autonomy, and past practices were discussed. Trustees are clearly discouraged, since they cannot serve their role and serve the College when the State sets tuition caps and negotiates with unions, taking such decisions out of the hands of the people who know best what their needs are. 4. The current projection is an $8.9 M shortfall. Planning continues as the Legislature wrestles with the budget proposed by the Governor. The process will be completed when the Board approves the final plan for tuition and fees at the July 13, 2010 Board meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* May 5 – 10:00 – 11:30 – Organizational meeting for the 2010-2011 Faculty Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Paulette LaBar

Faculty Senate Staff Secretary