**MINUTES**

**FACULTY SENATE**

**October 20, 2010**

In attendance: Adler, Alexy, Anthony, Bender, Borland, BuSha, Carver, Chak, Chan, Curtis, Didi-Ogren, Eberly, Farrell, Heisler, Hernandez, Hunt, Karsnitz, Leake, Lillevik, Lovett, McCarty, McMahan, Meola, Michels, Moore, Morin, Nicolosi, Novell, O’Brien, Petroff, Ruscio, Ryan, Speaker, Steinberg, Vivona, Wickramasinghe, and Winston.

Excused: Benoit, Edelbach, Harris, Li, SanPedro, and Tang.

Absent: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting were approved as distributed.

GOVERNANCE IN SCHOOLS

Cindy has met with the dean of each of the schools. There appears to be 4 main questions: 1) Do faculty, staff, and students have the ability to determine what issues are addressed by the school?

2) Are faculty, staff, and students authoring recommendations for deans (rather than simply reacting to proposals by deans)? 3) Are these recommendations put in writing and publicly shared with direct opportunities for discussion and feedback by faculty, staff, and students? 4) Are faculty representatives elected by faculty, staff representatives by staff, and student representatives by students?

There was discussion of how to proceed with this issue. It was noted that the current draft of the new governance document acknowledges that basic governance principles should extend to decision-making at all levels. A motion was made, and then withdrawn, to invite the deans to a senate meeting to discuss governance issues. A motion was made by Glenn Steinberg and seconded by John Karsnitz, to form a senate subcommittee to decide what to do with this document. Discussion ensued. The motion was passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ASSESSMENT OF TRANSFORMATION

Matt Bender led the discussion on a document on this topic to be sent to the Steering Committee. A motion was made by Mort Winston and seconded by Liz Borland to send this document to Steering. Discussion ensued. The motion passed unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

It was moved by John McCarty, and seconded by John Karsnitz to accept the slate of candidates selected by the appointments committee. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS FROM PROGRAM COUNCILS

* Athletics – Benny Chan reported that the TCNJ Athletic Department had an external review conducted by Alden and Associates to develop a 5-year strategic plan. Due to the budget concerns that occurred in the middle of the review, the 5-year plan was changed into a 2-year action plan to prioritize the needs of the athletic department. The reviewed showed that TCNJ athletics is a national exemplar in athletics, both as student-athletes (grades) and also in performance at the competitions. TCNJ was compared to other Division III schools including NJ state schools and also academic peer institutions like Bucknell, Williams, Villanova, and Franklin and Marshall. The report generated a series of recommended action items. I emphasize that the items are recommendations and the athletic department is still deciding how to approach these recommendations. Some of these recommendations will not involve the faculty including: Personnel and Human Resource issues, Marketing and Recruitment, Athlete-Administration Communication, Admissions Issues. Two issues may involve the faculty: The Physical Enhancement Center will be under review to help the horrid conditions in there. Studies will occur to assess the center and examine whether to outsource the management and maintenance of the PEC. The other issue, which could have large impact on the faculty and students, dealt with Priority Registration for athletes. “One of the most challenging issues facing intercollegiate athletics programs is the issue of class registration of student-athletes. The requirements of pre-season scheduling, in-season scheduling, and non-traditional season scheduling, make it difficult for many student-athletes to secure the classes they need and want, particularly as they advance in their respective majors. Unfortunately, priority registration is often viewed as further evidence of treating this population of students with favor, or creating an environment where they are deemed “special.” The reality of the situation is the practical need for these individuals to be able to maintain their course load and graduate on schedule. The other related issue is the overutilization of facilities by the practicing or competing teams, which creates a constant drain on both the facilities and staff who serve these teams. They are required at times to be working at 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m*.* on any given day. This affects the athletic training and facilities staff in particular.” The recommendation from Alden and Associates is to “explore a priority registration policy that allows athletics to operate successfully within its facility and staff resource base.” The faculty senate was informed of the potential study so that faculty concerns could be noted and help ask the proper questions for a potential policy. The Athletic Director was also recommended to include the faculty in all discussions/studies and to use the appropriate governance pathways to bring forth the issue.
* Graduate Programs – Jody Eberly reported that GPC is working on a charge from the graduate deans asking them to review graduate policies related to comprehensive exams and appeals procedures. They have submitted this to CAP in the spring and received feedback asking for clarifications. They are working on those clarifications now and will resubmit to CAP.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

* CPP – Mort Winston reported that CPP has met twice this fall since the last report. The main agenda items for both of these meetings were the Governance Review and CPP’s Role in Strategic Planning.  At the last CPP meeting they appointed a subcommittee to bring forward some specific recommendations for the whole committee to consider at our next meeting. While it is premature to say what CPP will end up with, they are moving in the general direction of having CPP play a steering role in planning similar to that which the steering committee plays in policy. In particular, they are discussing ways of implementing the principles of shared governance for the planning function.
* CAP – John Karsnitz reported that CAP has prepared a preliminary resolutions for mid semester grading and is collecting data to address the issue of maximum academic load for students. The committee is also waiting to receive additional data concerning student feedback of instruction.
* CFA – Matt Bender reported that CFA met most recently on October 13. At that meeting the status of the Recommendation on Five-Year Review for Tenured Faculty we discussed. After being passed onto Steering last semester, the document is now being reviewed by AFT in consultation with Academic Affairs. CFA has approached both the Provost and Steering for clarification as to what role CFA will have in reviewing the changes to the document that are currently being made. CFA is also beginning a Three-Year review of SOSA. Pertinent issues that they are focusing on include the composition of the SOSA review committee, the criteria on which SOSA applications are judged, as well as how well the program is meeting the needs of faculty across campus. CFA has recently begun drafting a revised SOSA Statement of Purpose. Lastly, CFA is awaiting several new charges from Steering.
* CSCC – Marc Meola reported that CSCC met on Sept 22 and Oct 13.  CSCC's charge from Steering is to review a proposed Facilities Use Policy developed by College General Counsel Tom Mahoney.   At the Sept 22 meeting, CSCC raised questions and concerns about the proposed policy. At the Oct 13 meeting, CSCC met and continued discussion and review with Tom Mahoney.  The next meeting of CSCC will also be with Mahoney to continue to review the proposed Facilities Use Policy.  Discussions have been positive and productive so far.
* Board of Trustees – John McCarty reported that the Student Life and Academic Affairs committees received reports concerning Fall 2010 admissions and the enrollment management efforts for the College.  Additionally, the Student Life committee viewed a presentation on the results of a survey of TCNJ graduates conducted by the Career Center.  The College Advancement committee received a preliminary presentation on the messaging/positioning efforts for the College.  The Building & Grounds committee is working on details with respect to the Towne Center. The Towne Center is making good progress through the process of securing a developer.  The key is whether a couple of anchor tenants can be found.  Without anchor tenants, it would be very difficult to bring the project to fruition.  If they can be found, the project could start next year.