

# Faculty Meeting Minutes

## January 20, 2010

### SEM II C1105, 1:00-3:00pm

Faculty Chair Rita Pougiales opened the meeting at 1:15.

#### **Announcements:**

1. Andrea Seabert Olson asked that faculty consider participating in the open interviews for the CRC Director of Recreation and Athletics candidates. The open interview for the first candidate is today at 4:00pm, please check your emails for interview dates and times for the other candidates.
2. Geoduck Student Union – GSU student representatives, Tessa and Andrew came to introduce the state-wide student walk-out on February 5th regarding affordability of higher education. They introduced concerns that have been brought forward by students regarding ADA compliance. They will go into more detail at the next faculty meeting.
3. Toska Olson and Rebecca Sunderman made a request for clothing to be used for their programs' (Forensics & Criminal Behavior) crime scene project. They additionally asked that those present write fan letters for two of the fictitious characters (Sheryl and Shiela), who are band members in Schoolyard Bullies. Templates were distributed.
4. Nancy Anderson reminded faculty that there is a veterans workshop on January 29<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30a.m. to 12:30p.m.. There will be experts who can speak to the issues/challenges that students have who are post war veterans.

#### **Faculty Chair 2010-11 and Faculty Chair-Elect 2011-12 Nominations:**

Rita reminded the faculty that last year the faculty passed a resolution to nominate both a faculty chair for the following year, and a faculty chair-elect for two years out, each fall. She indicated that she received five nominations in response to a request she sent out last week. To date, none of the nominees have indicated they are willing to stand. Rita went on to outline some of the important work that will take place over the next couple of years (e.g., RTaLE DTF follow-up, Provost search). She suggested the Faculty Chair position is not necessarily an easy task but it is an important one. She has found it to be extremely satisfying work with lots of support. Rob Knapp requested that candidates not be asked whether or not they are willing to stand today, which Rita accepted. The following faculty were nominated:

David McAvery, Andrew Buchman, Nancy Koppelman, Andrew Reece, Ruth Hayes, Rob Knapp, Krishna Chowdary, Clarissa Dirks, Tom Womeldorff, Kathleen Eamon

**Review of College Ethics Policy** -- Les Purce indicated he is pulling together a group to research and review what he described as legitimate concerns regarding our response to alleged ethics violations. He went on to let the faculty know he was on the initial ethics board and that there continues to be a huge tension regarding the work we do in higher education that involves the public. Les indicated that he has asked Lee Hoemann to lead a working group to develop and update policies as they relate to our ethics work, and will ask/invite the Agenda Committee and Public Service Centers' members to participate. He also suggested we need to address the tensions related to what the law says we can and cannot do. He further indicated we are in a landscape where the laws are becoming even more stringent and that this poses many difficulties for higher education.

**Resolution to Endorse** - *A Statement by United Faculty of Evergreen in Support of Evergreen's Labor Center and Academic Freedom – November 2009*

Rita reminded the faculty that Michael Vavrus called for a motion to pass a resolution in endorsement of the UFE statement of support for the Labor Center and academic freedom. Rita opened the discussion. Several faculty spoke in support of the Resolution and against Landmark. Others expressed concern with the internal auditing process and opinion. A question was raised regarding the College's ability to retract the the auditor's report. Les responded by indicating that Evergreen's internal auditor is very technically competent and that he was the one who determined we should respond as we would for any other request. He further indicated that Evergreen is required to provide public records to all requestors and that the work ahead is to clarify and re-affirm our mission around these issues and tensions. Les indicated that the auditor's job was to take an objective to look at the current practices and assure they are being followed at that point in time.

Les was asked to indicate why the report was released. He responded that anyone can make a public records request and have access to all of our college documents. He further suggested that we cannot make a decision on how we follow through based on the requestor's political agenda and that we are obligated by law to release the requested records. Don and Les were asked to prepare a point-by-point response to the ethical issues stated in the audit report. Ruth also called the question to accept or oppose support for the Statement.

- **The resolution passed with a vote of 58 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstained.**

**Interim & Permanent Provost Update and Discussion** – Les began by thanking everyone who participated and provided counsel as he deliberated on the interim provost position. He indicated he had a chance to speak with the Provost's staff, current/former deans, and public service center and graduate directors. He indicated some of the current challenges are reaccreditation, budget issues, remodeling teaching and learning, COP/ICAO, and the legislature. He introduced Ken Tabbutt as Interim Provost indicating he has the breadth of experience needed during the interim.

**Ken** began by thanking Les, the faculty and staff for all the support he has received. He indicated that he is a believer in the value of developing administrative skills in faculty rotation and encourage other faculty to take advantage of learning and using these skills. He suggested his best learning experiences have come from making mistakes – and he has and will make mistakes. He asked for continued feedback and collaboration. He went on to say he's ready to assume, and is committed to, the duties of this position and is looking forward to working collaboratively with faculty, deans, directors, administrators and the Provost's staff. He then pointed out that there are summer groups for planning and FAP discussions about the issues we all face and that we all need to think about what we will do in the next biennium about budget cuts. He then opened the meeting for comments, discussion and questions.

- We're in the middle of our first CBA agreement and are already having disagreements. How will you handle these issues? (Ken responded that he would like to spend time working collaboratively on the next contract and that one of his main goals is to have a good working relationship with the UFE.)
- Appreciation was expressed that Ken admitted to mistakes and plans to continue to work collaboratively. (Ken responded that the other divisions also need to be taken into account).
- What principles are you bringing to the budget deliberations? (Ken responded that he has no agenda other than to consult with faculty and his first priority is to serve our students.)
- Appreciation was expressed for Ken's work on the COM Building re-design.

**Provost Search** – Les indicated his goal to appoint a provost search committee by early February. He indicated he will work with the Agenda Committee to identify potential faculty and academic representatives to serve on the committee which will include faculty, a staff member from each division, an Agenda Committee member and a student or students. He suggested the job announcement should go out by the end of Spring quarter giving applicants the summer to apply for the position. He will request that the DTF identify applicants before the end of fall quarter and invite them to campus for interviews. Interviews should take place in the late Fall or early Winter quarter with an aim to have a new Provost on board for the beginning of Fall 2011.

**The following announcements were made:**

**Re-Modeling Teaching and Learning at Evergreen – Krishna Chowdary** reported that RTaLE is meeting every Monday. There are two groups - one working on transcripts, the other on advising. They will report out in week 7. Curriculum discussions are on-going in both groups.

**Budget – Steve Trotter and Walter Niemiec** reported they met with the Agenda Committee, Budget Coordinators, and FAP for the first meeting of this quarter and will be doing this regularly. Steve handed out a Master Budget Schedule through 2013 which outlines the report he will submit to the Legislature in a few weeks. Steve indicated that only five months after setting the budget, the College is being asked to cut another more deeply. He indicated Evergreen's portion of the \$90 million reduction to higher education is \$1.6 million for this biennium. Reserves will cover \$.6 million, we need to solve the remaining \$1 million challenge by March and submit our budget for 2011-13. FAP members indicated they will be seeking ideas.

**Peter Bohmer** invited faculty to a meeting at 4:30p.m. today in A2109 to talk with experts from California about strategies to protest cuts.

**Laurie Meeker** recommended faculty visit the UFE website to read the blogs explaining what the real budget issues are. Also, the Protect Our Economic Future ( [fusewashington.org/budget](http://fusewashington.org/budget) ) website has a lot of information on Legislative strategies for supporting higher education.

The meeting closed at 3:00p.m.