

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Council**  
**October 15, 2008**  
**Excerpts**

Present: J. Cummins, B. Ferguson, K. Jacobson, C. Lindgren, M. Schneider, P. Smith, B. Trish

The meeting came to order at 3:30 p.m. in Macy House conference room.

**President's Remarks**

The President was traveling.

**Dean's Remarks**

The Dean made no remarks.

**Council Remarks**

Following up on previous discussion regarding the Campus Plan update, J. Cummins noted that the Humanities Division has met and decided that they would like to meet with facilities planning consultant, Annie Newman when she is next on campus. The Dean directed Cummins to Marci Sortor. Cummins further suggested that both the Humanities and Social Studies Divisions need to coordinate their schedules in this regard. Also, the Humanities faculty thought it would be very instructive to have someone from the Science Division come talk with them about their recently completed facilities planning process and lessons learned. B. Ferguson agreed with Cummins on all points.

J. Cummins asked why the campus directory is so delayed. The Dean has learned that, due to a breakdown of printing equipment, the directory will not be distributed until fall break.

Under the general rubric of the EKI and specifically in relation to the new cluster idea, B. Trish noted that at the recent Social Studies Division meeting a faculty member expressed frustration with her inability to get technical support for building a Queer Studies webpage. Trish advised her to go to the administrative support staff in her building. However, Trish expressed concern that this situation is illustrative of what will become a larger and growing issue of needing to provide administrative and technical support to the various EKI activities. B. Ferguson noted that the Queer Studies cluster is a faculty cluster and not a course cluster at this point.

B. Ferguson noted that the Social Studies Division had recently met with some follow-up discussion of technology within the existing classroom structures, travel to other campuses by the new subcommittee members and coordination with the Humanities Division.

Ferguson also noted recently expressed concerns of Sarah Purcell about the sustainability of the successful Social Studies Division student poster session. She needs administrative support for organizing the session infrastructure in future years.

### **Draft Protocol for Council Interviews with Tenure-Track Faculty Candidates**

The Dean noted that M. Schneider had revised the draft guidelines discussed at the last meeting and distributed it for further discussion. Schneider noted that the guidelines are suggestive and not meant to be prescriptive. There was discussion of the role of Council in these interviews in relation to the role of the department, the purpose of discussing such institutional issues as our commitment to diversity, and Grinnell's high level of faculty involvement in the review and promotion process. It was agreed that Schneider would incorporate the suggestions resulting from the discussion and distribute for Council reference as interview season is beginning soon.

### **Draft Proposal to Reset Salary Review Cycle at Time of Review for Promotion to Full Professor**

The Dean distributed proposed language that would be added to a statement of the faculty salary process as approved by faculty vote on March 1, 2004. Council reviewed the issues involved with the process of considering faculty for promotion to full professor.

### **Update on Handbook Revision Proposal—Faculty Voting Eligibility**

The Dean shared with Council her review of the proposed Faculty Handbook changes arising from the work of Council last year. She expressed her concern that this is closely coordinated with the work of the subcommittee on part-time, regular faculty. J. Cummins asked about the sequencing of the proposed changes in voting and part-time faculty presentations to the faculty. Council will discuss further at its next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Secretary  
Karen Wiese