

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Council
February 4, 2009
Excerpts**

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

The meeting came to order at 3:30 p.m. in Macy House conference room. The minutes of 1/28/09 were approved.

President's Remarks

The President noted that the Trustees will begin arriving tonight. He reviewed some items on their meeting agenda, noting that they will review budget modeling parameters but will not vote to approve a budget until their spring meeting.

He thanked M. Schneider and the other members of the Honorary Degree Committee for the promptness of their work.

Dean's Remarks

The Dean noted that faculty searches are in full swing. She is devoting much of her time to searches and course scheduling for next semester.

She noted that she has received four Consortia for Faculty Diversity at Liberal Arts Colleges proposals for Council discussion and ranking at its next meeting.

Council Remarks

J. Cummins asked how to proceed on the issue of voting rights with divisional elections being held next week. The President responded that we should continue practices in place since the beginning of the year.

J. Cummins read from an email regarding a current faculty personnel matter. The President replied that he will not comment on an ongoing matter. Cummins noted that, after a faculty discussion held at noon today, he expects some motion(s) will be forthcoming at the next regular faculty meeting.

M. Schneider noted significant progress on coordinating the re-contracting and merit reviews on a six-year schedule for the Library and Physical Education faculty. He would like to get this to the Trustees for their consideration of approval for the following year. The President noted that the proposed language would need prior review by College counsel.

Request for Unpaid Leave

The Council discussed a request for an unpaid one-semester leave next year.

Draft Council Response to the Computer Science External Review

Council accepted the dean's draft as an accurate summary of last week's discussion by the Council.

Faculty Budget Committee Modeling of 09-10 Faculty Salaries

The President remarked that, while we don't have a lot of money, he is not a fan of a 0% pool for faculty salary increases. They are working on differentiating formulas for faculty and staff pools. He suggested that M. Schneider take the lead in working with the other members of the Faculty Budget Committee to arrive at a decision on this matter and let him know. He suggested that, if possible, the Committee give consideration to providing additional recognition to those who have just received tenure. M. Schneider distributed a bar graph which shows comparative information on salary by rank related to our peer group over a ten year period. There was discussion.

Departmental Requests for Approval to Extend Offers

Council took action on a number of personnel matters.

Message to Departments Regarding Faculty Position Proposals

The Dean had previously distributed a memorandum to Department Chairs Faculty requesting proposals for faculty searches for standard tenure-track, renewable, and EKI positions dated 2/28/07. She offered this as a template for reissuing the call for proposals this year. Council had previously discussed the need to send a clear message to all faculty that, given the tight budget situation this year and projected for next year, it is unlikely that new EKI searches will be conducted as soon as 2009-10, even if position proposals receive Council approval this spring. It was agreed to add such a statement to the end of this memorandum for distribution soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Secretary
Karen Wiese