

FACULTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of November 8, 1991

Present: J. Fernandez, K. Hall, S. Kirkpatrick, E. Landy, H. Lewis, P. McKeegan, R. Mukherji, P. O'Sullivan, G. Seidman, B. Sjostrom

I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of October 25, 1991 were approved.

II CHAIR'S REPORT

- A. Stephen Kirkpatrick sent a memo to Chris Griffin, Chair of the Committee on Faculty Personnel Matters, and spoke to Tom DelGiudice, Chair of the Personal Safety Committee, regarding the two committees working together to develop procedures on sexual harassment. Stephen will meet with Chris on Tuesday. Chris and Tom will meet later in the week.
- B. Old Westbury has not yet received guidelines for the Chancellor's Awards. Dr. Hall's office will call Albany regarding this matter. Dr. Hall suggested that faculty go ahead with the process.
- C. Dr. Hall suggested having a reception after the December Faculty Meeting to honor those people who have published books. Faculty Council was agreeable. The reception will take place outside of Room S100. Dr. Hall's office will handle the arrangements.
- D. Council discussed the possibility of having a luncheon/symposium on multi-cultural issues prior to a faculty meeting in the Spring. There is currently over \$900 in the Faculty Fund account. A luncheon would cost approximately \$300. Stephen will ask the Auxiliary Services Corporation for \$150 towards this luncheon. The remainder would then come from the Faculty Fund.
- E. There are a lot of inconsistencies in the way the Student Government Association placed students on committees. Stephen will get Sarah Ruff to work with them. A list of the students appointed to committees will be sent to Dr. Hall.

III BASIC EDUCATION

There are three separate but complementary reports which have addressed Basic Education: CAP, the Retention and Graduation Task Force, and the Task Force on Basic Education. Questions regarding the following aspects have been raised:

- 1. mission - a commitment to assess
- 2. not achieving - retention

A survey on attrition/retention was circulated. The question of why students leave was discussed.

Old Westbury is one of the most restrictive colleges (i.e. pre-requisites that are required for General Education and individual programs), according to Dr. Hall.

Dr. Hall noticed that there has been a consistent theme among new faculty: concern regarding their need to pass or fail students due to the absence of skills.

Attrition is zeroed in on funding, assessment and quality. Recommendations need to address the following questions:

1. skills
2. content
3. academic support services
4. retention as indication of outcome
5. evaluation
6. advising
7. assessment

Several questions were then raised. How do we use resources in a way that will address the previous questions? How do we identify and create new ways in addressing questions like content? How do we identify areas to address upper division transfers where there is a clear deficiency in math and/or writing?

Barbara Sjostrom reported that a couple of issues were raised within the Task Force:

- We do not have any organizational structure which affords following students up.
- Director of Basic Education has no budget and no authority.
- Whenever programs had to cut courses they usually cut Basic Education courses.
- We need to get from the Invitation to Learning into skills courses and then into content courses (need for consistency).

One of the recommendations from the Task Force on Basic Education was an umbrella program placed within Academic Affairs. Another recommendation was for a self-contained program, however, there must be clear leadership. One member of the Council felt that we should not have a self-contained program since they have not been productive in the past.

Dr. Hall said that there are ten sections set aside in the Fall and Spring for freshmen. We should ensure that students get proper advisement by faculty.

Math and Writing Centers should be attached to freshmen year courses; advisement should be closely associated. The two skills departments (Math and English Language Studies) need to become much more involved in working with programs.

Dr. Hall would like a recommendation from Faculty Council giving some directions about how we will address the following issues: advising, curriculum, resources and organization. It was agreed that Runi Mukherji and Eileen Landy will develop guidelines to prepare a charge for a sub-committee of Faculty Council that will work with a member of CAP and some other people.

IV

BYLAWS

A proposal for the ByLaws amendments to establish a Faculty Senate will be presented at the December Faculty Meeting. Mail ballots will then follow. This will be discussed at the next Faculty Council meeting, along with the motion on Chairs/Conveners.

V

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Hall announced that beginning on Monday there will be a freeze on purchases.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.