

Draft minutes

Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Monday – Sept 15, 2008; Hawai'i Hall 208

Present: Wakayama, Crookes, Hilgers, Ross, Keil, Tiles, Crosby
(secty Mitsutani)

3:00 meeting with PBRC members

SEC (Keil) began by telling PBRC members that SEC had been hearing about PBRC from the administration over the past two years, and that recently SEC had heard in some detail an oral presentation of the administration's views from VC Ostrander. SEC had not received a formal written presentation from the administration. SEC is firm that this must be done otherwise we do not have what SEC would expect in terms of shared governance. SEC would also like to have a statement in writing, rather than merely an oral presentation, from the PBRC.

PBRC members said that the presentation they were about to give SEC had previously been given to the Chancellor and VC Ostrander in March 2008.

PBRC stated that they have received only one official "written" communication from the administration concerning administration actions re PBRC, this being an August 28 email from Dr. Ostrander, in his role as Interim Director, announcing the dissolution of the PBRC. This followed (by two days) a meeting between Dr. Ostrander and the executive committee of the PBRC; though PBRC staff indicated that there had been various one on one meetings as well between Dr. Ostrander and them prior to that meeting.

PBRC then gave a presentation providing details of their unit and actions.

A point of interest and inquiry was the precise number and nature of positions within PBRC, both earlier, before the Medical School apparently absorbed some positions, and presently. There have been failed searches for the Director position, and PBRC has not been given permission to hire to fill vacant positions. PBRC staff said they could have been more productive had they filled their regular positions. Their presentation covered research productivity, grant-getting, support and guidance of students, from undergrad to postdocs.

SEC focused on the putative reasons why the UH administration wants to dissolve PBRC, which we believe are primarily financial connected to the costs of maintaining the main PBRC research facility (Kewalo).

Discussion then turned to the process for establishing and dissolving units (A3.101)

<http://www.hawaii.edu/apis/apm/archives/>

Concern related the lack of written proposals being made by the administration, and SEC's determination that the lack of same is a lack of shared governance. SEC agreed with PBRC about the need to press the administration to follow appropriate procedures

which would also apply to proposals to dissolve other units in future. SEC advised PBRC that they should prepare a written rebuttal or counter-proposal to any administration written proposal that should be forthcoming. SEC will forward both documents to the appropriate subcommittees. SEC has entertained requests from the administration to "fast-track" such discussion.

4:00 Regular SEC meeting

- 1) Discussion of procedures for allocating new faculty senate members to committees.
- 2) Checking on establishment of chairs of standing committees.
- 3) Complaint of a faculty member concerning a questionable health product being endorsed or used by UHM athletes. SEC will raise the matter with the Chancellor.
- 4) Circulation of document listing E&M position salaries. These show a trend towards similarity with CEO salaries.
- 5) Approval of Sept 8 minutes.
- 6) Update on assessment.

Manoa Office of Assessment staffers are proposing the establishment of a Faculty Senate standing committee on assessment, and have submitted a document proposing this. SEC referred this to CAP. Discussion continued to aspects of the faculty release position associated with this office.