

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Delegate
Assembly

Solarium

Wednesday, March 11, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Present: Professors David Connor, Tony Doyle, Jenny Tuten, and Jason Young

FDA President Jason Young called the meeting to order at 10:04.

1. Approval of the minutes of the December 3, 2008, Executive Committee meeting:

The minutes were approved, pending one minor correction.

2. Information Items:

* Shery-Ann Green has left the FDA office. Her replacement is Paulette Ibeka. Ms. Ibeka will generally be working in the afternoon. James Regan will continue to work in the morning.

* Proposed changes to PSC-CUNY Research Award program. CUNY is looking to streamline the program. Rather than have reviews take place within disciplines, the proposal is to have them done on the campuses. Each campus would be allocated a certain amount of money. Last year \$77,000 went to pay reviewers from outside of CUNY. If the reviewing were all done on the campuses, CUNY could save this money.

University Faculty Senate members are generally opposed to the possible changes. The objection is that many of the research proposals are specialized, and finding fully qualified reviewers sometimes means going beyond an applicant's campus if not CUNY. A second objection is that a campus or CUNY reviewer will be more likely to know the applicant than someone from outside of CUNY. Hence there is less chance of bias among non-CUNY reviewers. A third problem with conducting the reviews on the campuses is that provosts will be responsible for assembling the selection committees. This increases the possibility that the process will be politicized.

Chancellor Goldstein would like to increase the amount per award but reduce the number of awards accordingly. However, fewer, if larger, awards could mean more money for the sciences at the expense of the humanities and social sciences.

Professors Connor and Tuten opposed the chancellor's notion, since many benefits accrue to even small awards, for instance, recognition and a higher profile.

- * Update on promoting the FDA website. The goal is for the website to have a weekly feature that highlights faculty activities and achievements. The model for this would be Hunter-Gatherer. Members of the Executive Committee are invited to make suggestions about what the website might feature.

- * Adjunct email list: After many roadblocks we finally have it.

- * Planning for FDA and UFS elections:

 - UFS Elections: We should ideally hold the UFS elections by April 1 (although that probably won't happen).

 - FDA elections: We need to hold them. Professor Young is looking for someone to take his place. The president gets a three course release per year. Moreover she gets to shape the FDA's vision and agenda. Members of the Executive Committee should consider the opportunity. The FDA president has access to numerous Hunter committees and to lots of inside information about the college and CUNY. We could put out an open call, since any faculty member is eligible. However, it would be better to have someone who has already sat on the Executive Committee.

3. Brief Discussion Items:

- * March 18 FDA meeting:

 - President Raab is scheduled to give the college update.

 - Perhaps a speaker from Gender Equity (10 minutes)

 - Discussion of research interests and challenges (30-40 minutes): This will feature small groups led by members of the Executive Committee. Topics could include (1) expectations for research at Hunter, (2) targeting conferences, (3) finding time for research, (4) balancing teaching and other responsibilities with research, (5) how the FDA can help with research concerns. Professor Connor volunteered to write up a guidelines and talking points for distribution to members of the Executive Committee.

 - Groups report back to the general group (10-15 minutes)

* Update on FDA Social: The event has been re-scheduled for March 24, 3-5:30, 8th floor, HW.

* April FDA general meeting: The meeting will feature a forum on grant getting. We plan to have faculty panelists talk about their successful strategies. Topics will include, How does one apply for grants? What is the best strategy? Members of the Executive Committee should ask a grant getting colleague if he or she would be willing to participate.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02.

Respectfully submitted.

Tony Doyle
FDA Secretary