

Faculty Assembly

Wednesday April 18, 2012

1:00-2:30pm, SC137/138

Minutes prepared by FA Secretary Rebecca Root

1. FA Pres. Jim Morley moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Faculty Assembly. Seconded, approved.

2. FA President's Report (Prof. Jim Morley)

Pres. Morley reviewed today's agenda, noting one change: Prof. Vasishth's proposal regarding the creation of a Center for Sustainability requires further review by the ARC and FAEC before it can come to FA for discussion and decision this Fall.

Pres. Morley reminded us of the May 22 Faculty Conference, which will include a time dedicated to the Strategic Planning Task Force, threats to academic programs due to financial concerns and programmatic need, the Faculty Budget Committee, and perhaps national and state changes to higher ed and how they will impact Ramapo.

He also reminded the faculty to complete their online harassment training.

This is his final FA as President, and next week the outgoing FAEC officers will meet with their replacements. The FAEC will also meet with the President's Cabinet on May 14, so feel free to contact the FAEC to raise issues you would like addressed there. He reviewed the accomplishments of FAEC over the last two years, such as implementing clear rules of procedure for FA, managing several crises, building a tradition of shared collegial governance, passing resolutions, and fulfilling or making progress on nearly all the 2011-12 Annual Priority Goals (such as meeting with the President's Cabinet, developing recommendations on online student evaluations and the deans' evaluation survey, obtaining funding for the Academic Commons, etc.). He noted that in the case of guidelines for online teaching, we received feedback from FA that persuaded the FAEC to back off on the issue.

He thanked all those who served on the FAEC over the last two years.

3. Provost's Report (Provost Beth Barnett)

A new set of policies/procedures regarding the White House have been approved. The Provost's Council is reviewing several proposals, such as minimum/maximum class enrollments and a policy on the establishment of centers and institutes. Provost Barnett reminded us of the upcoming Student Engagement Retreat on April 27, which will

seems to encourage more students to participate. Honors Convocation will take place next week.

Prof. Michael Fluhr asked about the policy on minimum/maximum course enrollments. Provost Barnett promised to send the proposed policy to him.

4. Report from the Strategic Planning Task Force (Faculty Rep. Prof. Lysandra Perez-Strumolo)

The Task Force is currently reviewing Middle States recommendations so as to integrate them into the Strategic Plan. After that, they will begin drafting the goals to include in the Strategic Plan.

5. Union Report, (AFT Local Pres. Irene Kuchta)

She reminded us that there is a rally at the Arch next Wed at noon, immediately preceded at 11:30am by a meeting of the Union membership. This is a critical time not only for our contract but for

Prof. Mike Fluhr made a motion to table the resolution so as to