

Faculty Assembly Meeting
September 21, 2011
Secretary: Rebecca Root
11:30am, Friends Hall

1. FA President Morley calls the meeting to order.

2. Welcome by Provost Barnett

a. This is a difficult year in terms of budget and the college is reaching the limit of how much it can raise tuition. Though the freshman class met the target, there are approx 100 empty beds – students who made the financial decision not to live on campus.

b. Nevertheless, it is encouraging that the incoming class is characterized by higher SAT scores (average in the 1100s) and by a substantial degree of diversity (26%). Administrators responsible for enrollment and faculty involved in events such as incoming student days deserve recognition for their hard work. If you are interested in helping organize events to encourage student engagement, please contact the Provost's Office.

c. Strategic planning is underway. The administration proposes that one faculty member from each unit be invited to participate on the steering committee for strategic planning.

d. There has been good progress on assessment. Please remember to integrate CEC into all syllabi, as Middle States will scrutinize this.

e. Graduate enrollments hit 90% of targets. The proposed Special Education program is now before the state, after being approved by the president's council. ASB is considering revitalizing its MBA program, but this issue is still before the unit. In SSHS, the adult education program currently has a curricular theme of social justice. Please let the Provost's office know if you wish to get involved in teaching in this program.

f. In 2012-3 and 2013-4, renovations will be taking place in G wing renovations. This will place a crunch on scheduling, particularly in the most popular time slots, because many class rooms will not be available. The Provost will keep the FA updated on these developments.

g. The COPLAC conference is coming up soon. If you are interested in taking a student, submit an abstract by this Friday. The college will cover most costs.

3. Deans (or their proxies) introduce new Faculty

a. ASB welcomes Prof. Jennifer O'Neil in management and Prof. Vasundhara Chakraborty in accounting.

will focus on Louis Menand's recent book on higher ed; and Prof. Rikki Abzug will address who the modal Ramapo student is. The conference will be approximately 4 hours in duration on the afternoon of Oct 5.

f. Please send suggestions to the FAEC email (faec@ramapo.edu) regarding the Spring faculty conference day.

g. FAEC has met three times so far this Fall and has been working on identifying priorities to work on this academic year. The priorities identified are:

- i. Streamlining paperwork and procedures generally.
- ii. Implementing online course evaluations that are to the satisfaction of the faculty.
- iii. Streamlining promotion and tenure procedures.
- iv. Ensuring an authentic and effective faculty voice in the upcoming Strategic Plan.
- v. Seeking further refinement of the principle of "shared collegial governance" with the administration.

h. The State of NJ residency law is now in effect. Judith Jeney has been in touch with an ethics board responsible for interpreting it. She has clarified that everyone already hired is grandfathered in, and even when you change status you will not be required to relocate to NJ.

i. Christina Connor (Library) is our current clicker-meister. She needs an additional 1-2 volunteers to take responsibility for this (both to assist and in case she has to miss an FA).

j. Update on Faculty Commons. The carriage house has been designated as a future common space for faculty and staff, with students entitled to use the space during certain times as well. FA president will be included in the planning for use of this space and will report back to the FA.

6. Election of all-college FAEC Representative

a. Prof. Peggy Greene (TAS) makes a brief statement about her background and qualifications for this position.

b. The normal rules for voting are suspended, and voting is instead conducted by a show of hands. Prof. Greene is elected by a landslide and welcomed to the FAEC.

7. Reports

a. Assessment Committee (Vice Provost Eric Daffron): All programs that were required to do so, submitted their assessment reports over the

b. The Print Shop now requires 15 days notice to print materials. A concern is raised that this is excessive and prohibits faculty from making use of this office for time-sensitive materials, such as tests in classes.

c. Discussion of whether the lower number of students living on campus is tied to the banning of freshmen cars on campus.

d. Dissatisfaction with the college bookstore is voiced, specifically related to failure to fulfill book orders and communicate effectively with faculty.

10. Close of business meeting at 12:35. Moved, seconded. Approved.

11. Announcements

a. Two students from Haiti have arrived on campus, both recipients of scholarships funded by faculty donations. Please give to Ramapo Foundation for the Haitian Student Scholarship so this program can continue to flourish. The goal is 100% faculty participation in the scholarship