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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Finance and Service Committee Meeting, Tuesday, December 2, 2008

Arts & Sciences Finance and Service Committee

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Finance and Services Committee 12/02/08

Committee Members Present: Brynne Piotrowski (SGA), Eric Schutz, Michael Gunter, Barry Allen, Jane Wurzelbacher, Lisa Tillmann, Vidhu Aggarwal, Laura Coar, Jeff Eisenbarth, Tyler J. Bett (SGA) , Larry Van Sickle

Non-Members Present: Maria Martinez

I. Minutes for November 25th were approved with modifications

II. Discussion of Meeting Times for Spring Term

The following dates were established for the spring meetings [all times during the common hour]:

Jan. 13th

Feb. 10th

Mar. 17th

Apr. 7th

Apr. 28th [tentative, as needed]

III. Faculty Representation on the Board of Trustees

After some discussion concerning whether the faculty desire to serve on all standing committees, it was moved by Barry Allen and seconded by Lisa Tillmann that the following resolution be presented to the executive board:

"To enhance efficiency and communication, and in keeping with precedent established by both peer and aspirant institutions, we the Arts & Sciences Faculty propose the addition of two members of full time teaching Faculty to the Board of Trustees as well as at least one faculty representative on each standing committee of the Board."

Resolution passed with unanimous vote

IV. Student Representation on Board of Trustees

Brynne Piotrowski reported that the students are in the process of gathering data to support their bid for representation. They hope to conclude their research by end of fall semester and have a draft proposal in place by the beginning of spring term. After some discussion, it was suggested that there was a need to

standardize the data between the faculty survey and the student survey with an eye toward simplification.

V. Staff Representation on Board of Trustees

Maria Martinez was in attendance and reported that her office is also in the process of gathering data to ascertain the extent of staff representation among aspirant institutions. However, she expressed that, in her view, staff currently have plenty of representation. Schutz and others expressed concern that current “staff” representation is really “administrative” representation rather than bonafide staff representation. The committee elected to table further deliberation until more data is collected.

VI. Gender Identity And Expression Provision & Equal Opportunity Policy

Lisa Tillmann proposed that Rollins should add “gender identity and expression”

to its equal opportunity policy. Supporting data was offered from earlier research conducted by the Diversity Committee. Tillmann suggested that in collaboration with the Diversity Committee and Safe Zone, the F & S committee sponsor a resolution to this end. After discussion of the benefits both in terms of social justice and recruitment and retention, it was moved by Eric Schutz and seconded by Larry Van Sickle that the following resolution be approved:

To further its commitments to equality and justice and to reinforce its ethical opposition to discrimination, Rollins College should add “gender identity and expression” to its equal opportunity policy, which currently lists all federally protected statuses as well as sexual orientation.

The resolution passed with a unanimous vote.

VII. College Budgetary Considerations

The committee briefly addressed the plethora of dilemmas facing the Planning and Budget Committee. Several members expressed concern that future budgetary discussions might focus on cutting the across the board increases that are included in the faculty salary pool and subjecting more of the salary pool to merit consideration. It was also noted that the Rollins Faculty has had little if any “real wage” increases in recent years. The meeting closed with the prospect of extended discussions within the committee, as well as the faculty at large,

regarding approaching some clarity on the these issues and perhaps revisiting the faculty resolution concerning merit pay.

Submitted by Larry Van Sickle