

## **Minutes, May 2, 2012**

### **Chair**

Ezra Zubrow (excused)

### **Secretary**

Edward Herman (conducted meeting in Chair's absence)

### **Arts & Sciences**

William H. Baumer (Parliamentarian)

Melvyn Churchill

Stephen Dyson

### **Dental Medicine**

Mine Tezal

### **Engineering & Applied Sciences**

Joseph Mollendorf

Adel Sadek

### **Graduate School of Education**

Suzanne Miller

### **School of Public Health & Health Professions**

John Wilson

### **Management**

Larry Sanders

### **Medicine & Biomedical Sciences**

Nader Nader

Ranjiv Singh

Teresa Quattrin

### **Social Work**

Kathleen Kost

### **SUNY Senators**

Jennifer Gottdiener

Donald Grinde

Peter Nickerson

### **University Libraries**

Michael R. Lavin

### **Guests**

Professional Staff Senate --Ann Marie Landel

Provost (Interim)—Bruce McCombe

FSEC met in executive session with Interim Provost McCombe.

FSEC agreed to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, May 15th, to discuss and nominate its representatives to the 3E review panel and its choice for Chair of the Budget Priorities Committee.

**Report of the Commission on Academic Excellence and Equity, *In Pursuit of Academic Excellence: Equity Across Diversity*:** Discussion revolved around formation of a team charged with evaluating the Commission's recommendations in an advisory role to the President and Provost.

E. Herman suggested that the President and Provost allow UUP to nominate a representative as a good will gesture in an attempt to bring the University administration and labor closer together on related issues. However, Interim Provost McCombe would not support this, nor did he believe President Tripathi would.

A motion was introduced:

The Chair of FSEC should consult with the Provost about nominations to the implementation team charged with recommending implementation of recommendations made by the Commission on Academic Excellence and Equity.

Discussion:

M. Landel said she discussed the *Report* with Aethena Mutua and thinks the implementation team ought to have a professional staff representative. FSEC agreed.

McCombe thought the team should include a budget person.

J. Mollendorf was unsure about the definition of "academic excellence" as used in the *Report*. McCombe defined it as the University becoming the best institution possible. This requires input from all cohorts, including males and females; all races, ethnicities, and diverse groups; and staff at all levels and ranks.

D. Grinde thought that understanding diversity requires knowledge and respect for different groups that have divergent needs. Stating that the University accommodates these varied needs is easy, but when implementing policies the devil is in the details. He also said the team must include adequate representation of women and minorities.

S. Dyson believed the team ought to start by building on what we already have, expertise available through the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. It reports currently to D. Black, Vice President For University Life And Services. Questions arose about the future of this Office.

The motion passed.

FSEC considered a second motion.

The Provost should *Report* to FSEC regularly and frequently, or at least biennially, about progress made towards implementing the *Report*.

D. Grinde said that communication is a two way street. Attempting new ideas and methods requires the President and Provost to consult with and acquire feedback from faculty and other groups.

L. Sanders noted that questioning the provost is an obligation.

The motion passed.

Prepared by  
Edward Herman, Secretary  
Faculty Senate