

Faculty Senate Rules Committee  
Meeting Minutes Aug 4, 2008

Attendees: Maurianne Adams (chair), Marilyn Billings, Alexandrina Deschamps, Ernie May, Brian O'Connor, Ralph Whitehead, Robert Wilson

1. MINUTES

No minutes to approve. Approval of May 5 and June 19 minutes carried forward to next meeting.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Follow up from Aug 4 Rules/Administration meeting

Update to language of Honorary Degree document

**Action item:** Maurianne will revise and get to us for our Sept 5th Rules meeting

Discussed the creation of a 3-year term Ad Hoc Joint Task Force on Physical Planning that will look at the large vision / picture such as aesthetics, campus as arboretum and historic trees, effects on faculty in Morrill due to closing of Stockbridge Rd, communication, etc. Joyce Hatch is continually trying to build communication efforts.

**Action item:** Ernie will draft a mandate to share at our Sept 5<sup>th</sup> Rules meeting

Discussed the creation of an Ad Hoc Joint Task Force on Mass Transfer. This topic is under discussion in many states. The current document is very poorly constructed. This campus currently has a lot of material in place regarding transfers. Perhaps we could use what we have as model documents. Kevin Kelly's response at meeting with Administration – this is going to cost a lot of money, where is that coming from. It's like an unfunded mandate.

**Suggestion** that we (Ernie) get in touch with Rep. Christopher Donelan, the person who brought this up, and have a discussion to help us determine how best to proceed. Stephanie Chapko is working on a response.

B. UMA 250 Task Force update – carried forward to next meeting

Quick update: There was a strong feeling at the July 25 meeting that we continue this plan, release the positions that had been held for General Education (20) and Research. There have been 35 positions allocated but unfilled in NRC. There will be 60 replacements this year. Additional discussion ensued: Need coordinated discussion between Admin & Finance and Academic Affairs for faculty startup costs and then commitment. Need better understanding of faculty resignations, failed searches, and junior faculty issues. How to synchronize space and new talent. Create more swing space. Don't stop hiring in sciences. Want the administration to continue advocating to legislature for additional faculty allocation. Discussion about combining UMA 250 with the strategic plan. Need Bryan Harvey's input to summarize how we did on research positions, teaching positions. Question about the campus' rigorous hiring process that we go through, allocation strategies. Should we re-examine the hiring process to be more streamlined, allow for exemptions as needed? Our objective is to restore the size of the faculty in keeping with the strategic plan.

32 curriculum enhancement positions  
35 allocated but not filled positions  
22 new UMA positions (10 performance, 12 spousal hires)  
60 replacement hires

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149 total hires

We need up to an additional 200 positions to get us back up to 1200 faculty as before.

Study: Research space and needs – done by December

Study: Teaching space and needs – done by December

Failed searches – why is this happening? Higher salaries elsewhere or preferred institutions.

Engage new chancellor. Re-align UMA 250 efforts with strategic plan. Address flagship visibility and leadership.

**Action item:** Ask Anne Benz to pull together Bryan Harvey's materials to continue this conversation at next UMA 250 meeting, Aug 13.

C. Agenda items for 2008-09 - next meeting

D. Online Final Exams – Rules okay with this as presented in email

E. Brian O'Connor's remarks at Chancellor Cole's farewell July 24, 2008 – noted

F. Summer Rules Committee meetings? - no

G. Article June 6, 2008 NYT – noted

Next meeting: Sept 5, 2008 at 8:45 – note change in time