

Charge to Faculty Governance Review Team

April 3, 2007

To: William Tierney, Professor of Higher Education, University of Southern California
Joan Girgus, Professor of Psychology, Princeton University
Gregory Scholtz, Professor of English, Wartburg College

From: The Bucknell University Faculty Council

Martin Ligare, Associate Professor of Physics and Chair of the Faculty

Jamie Hendry, Assistant Professor of Management and Secretary of the Faculty

Pam Gorkin, Professor of Mathematics

Peter Stryker, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Tammy Hiller, Associate Professor of Management

Leslie Patrick, Associate Professor of History

DeeAnn Reeder, Assistant Professor of Biology

The Faculty Council of Bucknell University, with support from the administration and Board of Trustees, charges the external review team to examine the university faculty's role in the practice of shared governance at Bucknell. While the Faculty Council welcomes comments on all aspects of shared governance at Bucknell, we offer some specific questions that might guide the investigations of the review team.

- Are the faculty, administration, student, and trustee roles in shared governance consistent with AAUP and AGB guidelines? Are they appropriate for Bucknell? Where do they fit within the range of norms of higher education? Are they reasonably well understood?
- Does Bucknell have governance structures that allow the faculty to fulfill its responsibilities in shared governance? How do our structures compare to those at peer institutions? (Do we have the right committees with the right charges and the right compositions?)
- Is the faculty fulfilling its responsibilities in the practice of shared governance at Bucknell? (Do our committees work? Are they functioning as designed?)

- Are we missing opportunities for better communication between the faculty, administration, board, and students in our practice of shared governance?
- Is there appropriate accountability built in to our governance structures?
- What are the particular strengths of the practice of shared governance at Bucknell?
What are the particular weaknesses?
- Are there large-scale structural changes that the faculty might consider so that it can fulfill its governance responsibilities more effectively? Would it be appropriate to have a body that can speak for the faculty and/or provide feedback on some issues when the university is not in session?