UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE RECORD

The February meetings of the University Faculty will be held on Tuesday, 7 February and Tuesday, 21 February 2006, beginning at 12:00PM in the Langone Center Forum. Professor Martin Ligare will preside. If there are any amendments to the December 2005 minutes, please send them to Erik Lofgren, Secretary of the Faculty, in advance of the meeting.

AGENDA

1. Amendments to December 2005 minutes

2. Announcements and remarks by the President

3. Announcements and remarks by the Provost

4. Announcements by the Chair of the Faculty

a. Report on the January Board of Trustees meeting

b. Moving the election of URC replacement(s) up to February

5. Unfinished Business

Committee on Instruction: At the December meeting of the Faculty, COI moved "that the Faculty approve the plan described in the [report attached to the December Agenda] for annual dissemination of grading statistics to faculty members." Ben Marsh moved to return the proposal to the committee for further consideration. The motion was seconded immediately prior to the adjournment of the December meeting.

6. Committee Reports

a. Report from Committee on Planning and Budget: Ben Marsh
(see report attached at the end of this Agenda)

b. Report from Committee on Staff Planning: Tony Massoud

c. Report from the Steering Committee on the NCAA Recertification Process: Gary Sojka

6. Announcements and remarks by members of the President's staff

7. Questions for the President

ATTACHMENT

Report to the Faculty, CPB, Feb 2006.

Comprehensive fee. CPB concurred with the administrative recommendation for a significant step in the comprehensive fee for next year for new students and a more modest increase for continuing students. Here's the background: Over the last several years the university had been pricing itself to be low within the tuition range of our peers—presently 11th of 13. The total range has been shrinking, however, such that we have been striving for the bottom of a narrow band. This no longer makes sense—in part because we do not seek to be less good than the other schools, and in part because we have important uses for that revenue. As of this year, we are aiming for the middle of that band, which will require an increase of about 4% above our recent increases. In deference to our present students—and upon the urging of student CPB members—the university intends to phase the step in over three years by applying a larger increase only to students not now enrolled, and to apply a more familiar rate of increase, like previous years', to continuing students. We will have two 'prices' during the transition period, but this is not a permanent change in pricing policy or a prelude to other "differential pricing" of tuition, such as charging engineering students more than arts students. (Actual amounts of next year's increases are being withheld until the official communication is finalized and disseminated.)

Faculty compensation. At the urging of the president and the trustees' Compensation Committee, CPB has been discussing a method to step the faculty salaries up to the middle of our peers, as reported at the December Faculty meeting. The necessary increase to reach that goal will be about 4.8% above the 5.2% annual increase needed for us to maintain the faculty's present ranking within the comparison group. Our thinking was to take most of that step in the first year—2/3, was suggested—and the balance the next. Splitting the increase lessens the impact on any one year's budget, and also gives Committee on Faculty and Academic Personnel two opportunities to approach whatever equity they seek. The specific raises we recommended were 8.12% for next year, 6.57% for the following year, with 5.2% projected for subsequent years. This will represent the first time that the faculty salaries will be at the 'midpoint of our peers' rank which has been our nominal target for over a decade.

Current committee business. The committee is now beginning a general review of several of the largest expenditure items in the budget—such as our energy use, which looks to bring us a multi-million dollar increase in costs as of next January.