



UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE RECORD

Minutes

The November meeting of the Bucknell University Faculty was called to order by Faculty Chair Marty Ligare at 12:05 p.m. on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 in the Langone Center Forum.

1. Amendments to and approval of October 2007 minutes

No amendments were made to the October 2007 minutes.

2. Announcements and remarks by the President

President Brian Mitchell opened his remarks with an announcement that following each meeting of the Board of Trustees this year, a summary of the discussions would be shared with the campus community. As the January meeting will be more policy oriented this year, November and April will constitute the most important meetings.

Agenda items for the November meeting of the Board include: setting a range for comprehensive fees and Faculty and Staff compensation; update on Provost search; discussions on the College of Management, Faculty governance, and academic affairs. On the athletic front, a discussion is scheduled concerning the Patriot League and plans for potential League extension. A discussion on Campus Master Plan should consider a set of principles for land use. Also, the Campaign Organizing Group will submit its report, considering a working goal of \$500 million during the two-year silent phase of the campaign. Once it is established that this goal can be reached, higher goals may be set.

Then, the President thanked Students Affairs for their work concerning the crew team violation. An announcement will be forthcoming.

Finally, in the absence of Asst VP for Planning & Institutional Research Jerry Rackoff, President Mitchell directed Dean of Arts & Sciences Chris Zappe to answer Professor Bill Flack's question concerning the possibility to receive a report on Bucknell data from The Campus Diversity Survey administered in October 2006. In his answer, Dean Zappe indicated that Chief Officer for Diversity & Equity Rolando Arroyo-Sucre could summarize the survey results in such a report.

3. Announcement and remarks by members of the President's staff

Chief of Staff David Myers addressed the question of arming public safety officers at Bucknell, announcing that the Board of Trustees had created a task force. Considering the complexity of the issue, he recommended to proceed slowly and carefully. General Counsel Wayne Bromfield added that the scope of liability was a driving force, since a major shift in the legal landscape had occurred; and the Trustees have to assess their personal and institutional liability in the likelihood of an incident. However, the Board would defer its decision in order to get a better sense of sensitivity to the issue.

Director of Public Safety Jason Friedberg confirmed that no final decision would be made until an analysis of needs, budget, legal landscape and best practices of Universities across the nation was completed. Responding to a question concerning equally convincing arguments for both arming and not arming positions, Chief Friedberg pointed out that currently the response time is 10 minutes, while an armed officer on campus would be able to respond in 1 minute. The armed personnel on campus would receive the same training as police officers in Pennsylvania.

Finally, VP for External Relations Charles Pollock urged all in attendance to participate in the United Way drive.

3. Announcements and remarks by the Chair of the Faculty

Faculty Chair Ligare went through committee nominations, allowing time for nominations from the floor for each position:

- a. University Review Committee: Spring 2008 sabbatical replacement from Social Sciences
 - Sue Ellen Henry
 - Paul Shrivastava
 - No additional nominations made from the floor.
- b. Faculty Council: Spring 2008 sabbatical replacement from Social Sciences
 - Mark Bettner
 - Michael James
 - No additional nominations made from the floor.

Professor Ligare announced that the upcoming nominations for the University Review Committee would be moved forward because of the course release attached to the position, and encouraged everyone in attendance to think about their willingness to serve on this committee.

Finally, Chair Ligare, saddened by the passing of Emeritus Professor of English Richard Smith, requested a moment of silence in order to reflect on his career.

4. Committee Reports:

a. Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

Professor George Exner reported for CAFT on the review process of departmental review documents, a process customarily initiated by the provost, although departments may also request reviews by CAFT. In the absence of a Provost, documents will be reviewed by current Provost's replacement. It was pointed out that safeguards are in place to make sure that the process would not affect Faculty under review. The process concerns procedures rather than substantive changes.

The complete written report of the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure appears in the Appendix to the agenda for this meeting.

b. Committee on Instruction

Professor Katharina Vollmayr-Lee introduced the CoI report by underlying the importance of the document, since it includes both the Bucknell University Strategic Academic Vision and Learning Goals, and represents an opportunity to incorporate academics into the Capital Campaign. The process, originated with the Academic Planning group, will need to go through the regular governance system.

The complete written report of the Committee on Instruction appears in the Appendix to the agenda for this meeting.

Next, Dean of Engineering Jim Orbison provided a context for the discussion, underlying the need to develop Learning Goals for the institution as well as methods of assessment in order to define and articulate a direction for the institution. This process will also provide academic objectives for the Campaign.

During the ensuing Q&A period, it was established that the process would include a chance for Faculty to read the draft document and provide feedback. Following a question regarding a possible College of Management, Chair Ligare commented that such a college would not be inconstant with university-wide learning goals. Before the discussion was brought to a close, it was suggested that Learning Goals should include all parts of the University, including Student Life.

CoI will request further comments at the December meeting of the Faculty, and would welcome general feedback until January 15.

c. Committee on Planning and Budget

Professor Tom DiStefano, reporting for the Committee on Planning and Budget, recommended an overall increase within the range of 4.75% to 5.25% in the comprehensive fee for academic year 2007/2008. Increases in the recent past have been above the average and have now placed Bucknell around a "middle-of-the-range" fee with respect to BU admissions peer institutions. CPB therefore recommended that the mathematical methodology be somewhat tempered to achieve a more moderate comprehensive fee increase than in the recent past.

4. Adjournment

The November 2007 Meeting of the Bucknell Faculty was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.; no second meeting time was necessary this month.

Respectfully submitted,

Philippe C. Dubois
Secretary of the Faculty