

Faculty Advisory Council

Minutes

Date: September 19, 2002

Time: 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM

Place: Horvitz Building, LaBonte Board Room

Present: Ron Chenail (Academic Affairs), Morton Diamond (Allied Health) George Fornshell (GSCIS), Stan Hannah (Fischler), Leanne Lai (Pharmacy), Michael Patterson (COM), Bob Preziosi (Huizenga), and James Thomas (OC)

Absent: Vesna Beck (Fischler), Robert Casady (Medical Sciences), Jonathan Coffman (Medical Sciences), *Veljko Dragojlovic (OC), , Jan Faust (CPS), Joshua Feingold (Farquhar), Tim Hottel (Dental Medicine), *Wendy Hupp (Dental Medicine), Mike Masinter (Law Center); *Anne Rambo (GSHSS), *Marlisa Santos (Farquhar), Fran Tetunic (Law Center), *Julie Tyler (Optometry), Lenore Walker (CPS) and *Pan Yatrakis (Huizenga)

* Emailed to report scheduling conflict

Purpose Statement: The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Council is to help further the mission of Nova Southeastern University by advising the administration of NSU about matters for the improvement of university programs and services. The primary goal of the Council is to enhance, protect, and maintain the intellectual integrity of the university through its academic programs. To this end, the Council serves as a forum to recommend new and innovative change; a platform to address academic issues and concerns; and a resource for conceiving, developing, and implementing new projects. The Assistant to the President for Academic Affairs chairs the Council. The Council meets monthly and consists of representatives from each academic center within the institution. (11/00)

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of June 11, 2002 Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously without revisions. They can be found online at <http://www.nova.edu/cwis/vpaa/fac/fac061102.html>.

3. Humana and Wellness Committee Update

Dr. Chenail reported that the university was looking into an insurance plan under which the university would join with a number of colleges and universities from the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) into one program. More information on this proposed plan would be brought back to the Council.

Council members said that The Chronicle of Higher Education had been running articles

on other such consortium plans. Dr. Chenail commented that the university and ICUF had hired a consultant who was assisting in the process.

Dr. Lai reported on the latest news from the NSU Wellness Committee. She said the group was still reviewing the question of whether or not to outsource the NSU Wellness program. She reported that the committee was leaning towards the outsourcing option. Dr. Lai also stated that the Center for Psychological Studies was going to make a proposal to add a mental health component to the package of services. Dr. Lai added that the costs for the program were still being determined. She also said that Humana would most likely pay for the services.

Council members again raised issues of confidentiality regarding employees and their utilization of a wellness program. They also expressed concerns regarding the high levels of stress experienced by NSU employees and whether or not the PPO plan would be continued under the next contract. Another Council member mentioned he had spoken with administrators from mid-western universities that had financial relief and success with a self-insured and group consortia arrangement.

4. Bookstore Contract Update

Dr. Chenail reported on the new contract with Barnes & Noble. Council members expressed satisfaction with the new arrangement.

5. President's Faculty Scholarship Awards Update

Dr. Chenail reported that letters would be going out soon announcing the 2003-2004 President's Faculty Scholarship Awards. The deadline for proposals is March 31, 2003. Dr. Chenail also stated that there would be a series of technical assistant workshops for potential faculty submitters. He also said that the Office of Information Technology was developing an online process for the submission of reviews.

6. United States Geologic Survey Update

Dr. Chenail reported that President Ferrero was representing the university in Washington, DC this week in an effort to secure political support for NSU's appropriation requests along with building support for the university's efforts to respond to a recent RFP from the United States Geologic Survey (USGS).

Dr. Chenail summarized the university's efforts at securing the south Florida office of the USGS. NSU is the lead university of a consortium of NSU, the University of Florida (UF), and Florida Atlantic University (FAU). Dr. Chenail stated that this would be a major achievement for NSU and could lead to the creation of a major research park in Broward County. The USGS will be highly involved in the Everglades restoration project and having their office and research facilities spread between the three schools of the consortium would be a great advantage for us all in securing additional research funding in the area of environmental sciences and studies.

Dr. Chenail also presented an overview of the university's plans to compete for one of the centers of excellence (<http://www.myflorida.com/myflorida/etc/index.html>). Dr. Chenail explained that the centers of excellence were initiated by Governor Bush as a way of stimulating economic development through partnerships between universities,

state government, and the corporate world. Building upon NSU's collaborative efforts with UF and FAU, Dr. Chenail anticipated that the university would submit a consortium-driven proposal to create a center of excellence in environmental sciences.

Dr. Chenail concluded by saying that the review process for both programs would continue on into 2003. He said he would keep members of the committee informed of both initiatives.

7. Other Issues

Parking Garage

Dr. Thomas asked Dr. Chenail if he would find out if faculty members who teach in the Parker Science Annex could get passes to park in the for-fee side of the parking garage. Dr. Thomas pointed out that science faculty often had to transport chemicals and other lab equipment with them to the Annex. The faculty members find that the NSU side of the parking garage is often full and that requires a long trek carrying substantial amounts of equipment. Dr. Chenail said he would contact Dr. Hanbury to inquiry as to the possibility of parking alternatives for these faculty members.

Plagiarism

Dr. Chenail reported that he was looking into the issue of plagiarism and wanted to involve the FAC in the discussion. Part of the review involved policy issues regarding the definitions of plagiarism and the dismissal procedures. Another part of the review would be on ways schools approach educating their students on the issues of plagiarism. One aspect of this educational process is the use of software such as turnitin.com. Dr. Chenail said he would speak with folks in the Office of Information Technology to learn the status of the search for effective software and have an update for the Council at the next meeting.

Library-OIT Project

Dr. Chenail reported that staff from the Library and the Office of Information Technology's I-Zone were working with his office to create a series of learning modules to help faculty members and students access the Library's electronic resources more easily and to learn better ways of searching for information on the Internet and within proprietary data bases. Dr. Chenail said that the members of this group would be coming to a future meeting of the FAC to discuss the project and to receive feedback. Council members said they thought one module that should be developed would one that covers the proxy process.

One Council member mentioned that The Chronicle of Higher Education has been running articles about Libraries and online subscription issues such as the rising costs.

8. Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM

9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 9, 2002, 8:30 A.M. in the Horvitz Administration Building's LaBonte Boardroom