

Yeshiva University Manhattan Campuses Faculty Council
Brookdale Center, Room 1008
February 15, 2013
Minutes

Present: Joan Beder, Gabriel Cwilich, Carl Feit, Paula Geyh, Malvina Halberstam, Miriam Hirsch, Dennis Hoover, Jesse Itzkowitz, Nora Nachumi, Aliza Rotenstein, Daniel Rynhold, William Stenhouse, Charles Swencionis, Lynn Wishart, Marnin Young; Vice Provost Larry Schiffman, guest

Moved by C. Feit and seconded to accept the Faculty Council minutes from the meeting of December 14, 2012. Motion carried. Minutes and the Faculty Handbook are posted in the Provost's section of www.yu.edu.

Executive Committee members reported on three separate meetings with two representatives from Middle States, with Provost Lowengrub, and with President Joel and Provost Lowengrub in recent weeks. To address concerns expressed in the Middle States evaluation and to plan for increased faculty participation in governance, a "process committee" consisting of Provost Lowengrub, Vice President Gower, Vice President Joseph, and three faculty members is forming immediately. J. Beder, C. Feit, and C. Swencionis will represent the faculty on the committee. Vice Provost Schiffman recommended that the Faculty Council look at other institutions to gather an overall sense of what is possible. As one example, J. Beder will circulate a document outlining the committee structure at Barnard College.

Moved by J. Itzkowitz and seconded to amend the Faculty Council By-laws to allow Faculty Council Alternates to serve on ad hoc committees. Motion carried.

Moved by J. Itzkowitz and seconded to allow the chair of a Faculty Council ad hoc committee to appoint Faculty Council Representatives and Alternates, as well as faculty who are not currently on the Faculty Council, as full members of that ad hoc committee. Motion carried.

J. Itzkowitz reported on behalf of the Faculty Council Budget Committee. From conversation with Vice President Gower, it appears that there are opportunities in the late spring to offer input during the development of the preliminary academic budget and in a follow-up review of that proposed budget.

P. Geyh reported on a meeting the Faculty Council Benefits Committee held with Provost Lowengrub. Provost Lowengrub uses the two options recommended by the Faculty Council as a departure point for conversation with each tenured faculty member contemplating retirement. As a result of individual and institutional responses to this implementation, the Provost requested a Faculty Council review to modify each option. The Provost also requested guidance on the array of other non-cash benefits offered to potential retirees, such as continuing library support and emeritus status. The Committee will work with Institutional Research to survey

faculty to better determine priorities for retirement incentives. The Provost's additional request for policies for promotion and research support for non-tenure track faculty was referred to the ad hoc Tenure and Promotion Committee.

Moved by J. Beder and seconded to reconstitute an ad hoc Research and Support Committee to consider matters such as faculty library services, information technology support, grant support, sabbatical and research leave support. Motion carried. A. Frenkel and G. Cwilich will re-form the committee that had been combined with the Benefits Committee in spring 2012.

W. Stenhouse reported that the Faculty Council's newly formed Tenure and Promotion and Undergraduate Faculty committees met.

G. Cwilich and J. Beder will be attending undergraduate and graduate Deans' Councils meetings respectively.

P. Geyh will update and revise the letter regarding faculty salaries and benefits sent to President Joel and the President of the Board of Trustees in spring 2012. The revision will be circulated to the Faculty Council for comment.

Moved by G. Cwilich and seconded that the Faculty Council will nominate three faculty for membership on the search committee for the position of Provost and that one of the three will be a current member of the Faculty Council. Motion carried. Nominations, accompanied by a short statement of qualifications, should be submitted to L. Wishart by February 22 so that she can circulate them to the Faculty Council for discussion.

M. Young indicted that the Faculty Council needed to appoint an eight person Faculty Review Committee for tenure appeals. Nominations should be sent to L. Wishart. Once the pool of faculty nominees is assembled and distributed, the Faculty Council will select the eight. The election of this committee needs to take place before the start of the next academic year.

J. Beder and N. Nachumi will assemble an outline to help Council Representatives speak with their respective faculties about these new committees.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 19 on the Beren campus. President Joel will be invited to discuss the proposals developed by the "process committee" for identifying committees and a structure for increased faculty participation in university governance.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 pm.

Minutes submitted by L. Wishart, Secretary