Meeting of the Camden Faculty Council  
Minutes  
February 28, 2017  
Private Dining Room, Campus Center, 9:30am – 10:45am  

Attending:  
Chair: Perry Dane  

Members: Janice Beitz, Danny Bubb, Rich Harris, Paul More, Sam Rabinowitz, Andy Shankman, Carol Singley, and Julie Still  

Administration: Representatives from the Administration were unavailable to attend.  

Absent: Marla Blunt-Carter and Bruce Garrity  

Agenda  
1. Approval of the minutes  
2. Chair’s comments, if any  
3. Other announcements, if any  
4. Discussion of meeting schedule for the rest of the academic year  
5. Discussion with guests from the AAUP of 3 Plus 1 Degree Programs proposed by the New Jersey College Affordability Study Commission. (See attached report and resolution from the University Senate.)  
6. Consideration of By-Laws Amendment attached (for a final vote at the March meeting of the Council).  
7. Continued discussion of integration of PTL integration into the academic community, including Chair’s report of his meeting with the Provost and Deans.  
8. Discussion of “big questions” for 2016-2017  
   a. Nurturing student intellectual engagement  
   b. Faculty Advancement and Evaluation  
9. New business  
10. Adjournment  

1. Approval of the minutes  
A motion to approve minutes of the meeting of the Camden Faculty Council (CFC) on January 31, 2017 was raised, seconded, and approved unanimously.  

2. Chair’s comments  
Perry Dane met with Provost Mike Palis and the Deans recently at their regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the Camden Faculty Council’s “Resolution and Statement of Best Practices for Better Integrating PTLs.” Perry gave an account of the resolution passed, putting it into a larger context as well as the aim of the resolution as a document for Rutgers University–Camden. The Deans expressed support for the resolution and suggested further conversation between the CFC and faculty governance. As a first step, Perry will speak with Janet Golden, chair of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Camden Senate.  

3. Other announcements, if any  
There were no other announcements. However, it was suggested that in the interest of the union representatives’ time, the CFC proceed to discussion of item 5 on the agenda.  

4. Discussion of meeting schedule for the rest of the academic year  
Discussion was tabled for a later date.
5. Discussion with guests from the AAUP of 3 Plus 1 Degree Programs proposed by the New Jersey College Affordability Study Commission. (See attached report and resolution from the University Senate.)

Representatives of the American Association of University Professors-American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO (AAUP-AFT) were invited by the CFC to discuss legislation proposed by the New Jersey College Affordability Study Commission on 3 Plus 1 degree programs. Union representatives provided background on the commission and its proposed legislation and on the rationale for the AAUP-AFT’s opposition to the legislation. Citing a statistic that transfer students take 1.5 to 2 years longer on average to complete a four-year degree after transferring from a two-year community college, the AAUP-AFT suggests that less exposure to four-year, degree-granting institutions will exacerbate this problem, decreasing or eliminating any financial saving and potentially adding to student debt load.

The Rutgers University Senate Executive Committee has passed a resolution that “strongly opposes any Rutgers participation in a 3 plus 1 degree program.” Considering the Commission’s legislation flawed, the CFC also opposes Rutgers’ participation in 3 plus 1 degree programs. Avenues of reasonable and useful action by the CFC were discussed. Most notably, the Bridging the Gap Program at Rutgers University–Camden increases affordability while allowing students to experience four years at the degree-granting institution. Strong promotion of this program was recommended. The AAUP-AFT has the authority to convene a leadership council that would include representatives from all of the Rutgers faculty councils among its members. This would facilitate the development of a unified resolution.

6. Consideration of By-Laws Amendment attached (for a final vote at the March meeting of the Council).
Time did not permit for discussion.

7. Continued discussion of integration of PTL integration into the academic community, including Chair’s report of his meeting with the Provost and Deans.
Time did not permit for discussion.

8. Discussion of “big questions” for 2016-2017
   a. Nurturing student intellectual engagement
   b. Faculty Advancement and Evaluation
Time did not permit for discussion.

9. New business
There was no further new business.

10. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Next Meeting:
March 28, 2017 (Tuesday), 9:30 am, Campus Center, Private Dining Room

Minutes prepared and submitted by,
Michele Robinson
Secretary to the Camden Faculty Council