Meeting of the Camden Faculty Council
Minutes
March 26, 2015
Executive Private Dining Room, Campus Center, 12:15pm-1:30pm

Attending:
Chair: Sam Rabinowitz

Members: Janice Beitz, Judith McCoyd, Paul More, Perry Dane, Andrew Shankman, and Julie Still

Absent: Bruce Garrity, Naomi Marmorstein, Joseph Martin, and Carol Singley

Guests: Loree Jones and Andrew Lees

I. Old Business

- Minutes from the CFC meeting on 2/26/15

II. New Business

- CFC Elections
- Board Updates
- Update from the Administration
  - Strategic Plan Implementation
  - RCM
  - Upcoming Events (Earth Day, Take Your Child to Work Day, Conference on Inequality and Education for Girls of Color, 250th Anniversary of Rutgers)
  - Discussion

I. OLD BUSINESS

Minutes from the CFC Meeting on 2/26/15

A motion was raised, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes from the Camden Faculty Council meeting on 2/26/15. Andy Shankman abstained from voting because he was absent from the meeting.

II. NEW BUSINESS

CFC Elections

Inaugural CFC terms end on June 30th for Sam Rabinowitz (SBC), Perry Dane (Law), Joe Martin (FAS-Science and Math), and Paul More (contingent faculty). As stated in the by-laws, the individual schools will run elections for the full-time faculty positions, and CFC will run the contingent faculty election. The council would like the elections to be completed in time for the last CFC meeting of the academic year on May 26th.

Board Updates

Rutgers Board of Governors

The Board of Governors will meet on April 2 in Newark. Tenure and promotion decision will be made.
Camden Board of Directors

Andrew Shankman, faculty representative to the Camden Board of Directors, provided an update on the 2/19/15 meeting. With State Senator Nilsa Cruz’s resignation, the board now only has one public representative. The three open positions will be appointed by Governor Christie. In addition to faculty representation on the board, the legislation also calls for student representation. Mary Beth Dalsey was going to be consulted to assist with devising a process for identifying undergraduate and graduate representatives.

Update from the Administration

Loree Jones, Chief of Staff, provided the update from the administration, discussing progress on implementation of the strategic plan and upcoming events. She also fielded CFC’s concern about and interest in the campus’ built environment.

Implementation of the Strategic Plan

The four established strategic planning committees (Implementation, Research, Marketing/Visibility, and Student Success) have all met at least once. Chris Molloy, Senior Vice President for Research and Economic Development, and his direct reports met with the Research Committee on 3/3/15. What is readily apparent is the need for more staff in the Office of Sponsored Research at Rutgers–Camden. The Marketing/Visibility Committee is taking an innovative approach, recommending investing in faculty/junior faculty attendance at conferences to raise the profile of Rutgers–Camden. The Student Success Committee conducted a retreat on 2/20/15. The infographics developed for the retreat identify who our students are (e.g. 90% commuters, 65% transfers). From this baseline, more effective ways can be developed for recruiting, retaining, and supporting students.

Responsibility Centered Management

RCM is moving forward, and the budget will be reviewed within the next few weeks.

Upcoming Events

Earth Day will be celebrated on April 22 with flower planting by faculty, staff, and students in front of the Campus Center. Jim Rhodes, a member of the Rutgers Board of Trustees, provided the supplies and plants. Perhaps an academic component could be added to this celebration in the future.

Take Your Child to Work Day is April 23.

ETS and Rutgers–Camden are co-sponsoring a conference on inequality and education for girls of color. The conference will tap local and national experts and will have a practical component, highlighting the work of individuals and non-profits. The conference is currently in the planning stages and will be held next year.

The 250th anniversary of Rutgers will be celebrated from 11/10/15 to 11/10/16. Rutgers–Camden has representation on the committee in New Brunswick. What the celebration will look like is currently being sketched out. Perhaps at Rutgers–Camden, we can highlight the great things we do here with 250 ways we are celebrating the 250th. Although we will have anniversary events here, CFC members feel it is important for Rutgers–Campus to participate in and have a presence at events in New Brunswick.

President Barchi will be visiting campus on April 6. He will hold a town hall meeting with faculty and staff who should ask questions and raise issues. In the afternoon, he will meet with student leaders.
Judy McCoyd added that the School of Social Work was holding the Krystal Ball on March 28 in memory of SSW student Krystal Skinner. All proceeds benefit the Krystal Skinner Memorial Scholarship and raise awareness for domestic violence.

The third annual Inter-professional Education Day, including the Schools of Law, Nursing, and Social Work and Rowan Medical School, will be held on September 25. The Medical School would like more sustainable efforts, and concern was expressed about block scheduling. Classes should not be scheduled on Friday afternoons for Nursing, Law, and Social Work students to allow time for inter-professional opportunities. Loree Jones planned to follow-up with Ray Solomon.

Discussion

Loree Jones requests input from the Camden Faculty Council members and other faculty members at Rutgers–Camden, and encourages them to contact her.

CFC members expressed interest in and concern about the built environment of the whole campus and urged that faculty members be included in the design process, particularly for buildings within their own schools. The Nursing/Science Building, which is expected to break ground in late spring, will not be part of the current envelope. CFC members expressed concern about safety and parking and the need to connect the building with the campus by creating a university corridor and enhancing and unifying the streetscape.

Julie Still reported the Executive Council of the AAUP-AFT endorses and encourages voting for the tentative contract which includes public service loan forgiveness for junior faculty. The union is interested in working with administration to disseminate this information to junior faculty; graduate and law students should also be made aware of this benefit. Partnering with financial institutions to disseminate this information is also a possibility, and Loree Jones suggested it would be great if Rutgers-Camden took a lead role.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Next Meeting:

April 30, 2015 (Thursday): 12:15pm-1:30pm in the Executive Private Dining Room, Campus Center

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