

Faculty Governance Meeting  
1/22/14

Meeting called to order at 12:45PM by Kelley Donaghy.

Those present:

Bevilacqua, Eddie	Fierke, Melissa	Newman, David
Blair, Scott	Folta, Elizabeth	Owens, Ruth
Boyer, Gregory	Frair, Jaqueline	Patterson, Gordan
Bryant, Margaret	Germain, Rene	Powell, William
Caluwe, Paul	Girsov Ivano, Ivan	Quackenbush, Lindi
Chandler, Mary	Hawkins, Richard	Ringler, Neil (EFB)
Connell, PJ (USA)	Jager, Dawnelle	Rothwell, Karaline
Crandall, Laura	Johnsto, Doug	Selfa, Theresa
Daley, Douglas	Kiemle, David	Smith, William
Doelle, Klaus	Lai, Yuan-Zong	Spuches, Charles
Donaghy, Kelley	Lombard, Anne	Tiss, Kenneth
Ellis, Jo Anne	Malmsheimer, Robert	Triano, Mary
Endreny, Theodore	Mao, Huiting	Turner, J Scott
Farrell, Shannon	McGee, Gregory	Weiter, Stephen
Feldpausch-Parker, Andrea	Meyer, Robert	Whipps, Christopher
Bruce Bongarten	Mountrakis, Georgios	Quentin Wheeler

Dec FG minutes passed.

Start-up New York overview. Faculty need to be engaged with this initiative to make sure that whatever company uses sites we have to offer coordinate/complement with our academic mission. FG Executive Committee will be the lead on this.

Mentoring colloquium – good reviews for this. Committee was excellent and got the job done.

Part of the day was to think about things larger than ourselves. One of the negatives was that we were talking about things that we can not fund. This is not the attitude we should take – we should think we can achieve things, to be the little engine that could. What new questions do we want to answer and what we want to accomplish. We can't use the excuse that we can't, that we don't have funding, we need to think big, we need to go for things that we need/want. Self-fulfilling prophecies of failure if we don't think about, ask for and then figure out how to get things that we need. We need to ask for and establish grants/summer funding for faculty to develop new programs, new teaching techniques, etc. Asking for SEED grants for teaching service

and outreach. We need to dare to dream and “think we can” – only then will it become – look what ESF did.

We need a new Executive chair, senators and chairs of committees...

Followed up on KDs “dream big” – its his job to find the \$.

Provide an overview of what he envisions – these may change and he’s open to hearing from everyone else about their visions and will be coming around to talk to all depts. He ran his previous job as transdisciplinary team engaging and getting feedback from everyone – and made better choices/decisions for it. We need to develop a big, audacious vision, we need to differentiate ourselves to get investors, to get students. We need to ask the right questions, ones that are not trivial.

- Offer a transformative educational experience, help and guide students to find the thing they are so passionate about to do for the rest of their life. They need to think critically and communicate efficiently. There are basic competencies they need as well – being a part of a team, awareness of global cultures (tolerance), ethics, scientific literacy. This doesn’t need to stop at the campus borders, it needs to go beyond that.
- Take the long-term view – how can we increase the supply of diverse individuals, rather than concentrating on recruiting and looking good in the short term. SECS (Sustainable Education and Citizen Science)
- Conceptual consilience – transdisciplinarity
- Revenue streams are not a means to an end – we need to get the priorities straight
- Evolutionary entrepreneurship – organisms have solved many of the problems that we are facing over the 4.5 BY on the planet and we just need to know more about the organisms on our planet in order to learn from them. Bioinformatics - get the ontology of evolutionary adaptations and translate it into information so that we can access the information.
- Partner with and leverage strengths of other SUNY institution. He’s organizing a workshop of other SUNY institutions – to have a temporary informal think tank to come up with the top 10 “hair on fire” sustainability issues and then bring it back to ESF and determine which one we want to own.
- We have the power of place – Syracuse is doing a lot to improve itself and is the perfect place to reinvent a mid-size city to make it more sustainable. We could also tap deeper pockets in NYC to fund this initiative.
- Universities have a unique role to increase information – we need to engender basic curiosity in the natural world. If we don’t maintain and deliver basic fundamental science, then we have failed.
- We understand the biosphere of Mars more than we do of Earth. If we are serious for sustainable biodiversity, then we need to know what is out there – we need an inventory for the flora & fauna of earth – adaptation economics of nonstop trial and error that has been facilitated by natural selection – and fulfilling the curiosity we have. We have spent more on understanding human

evolution and the universe and not so much on the sweet spot of organic ???  
It will also inform the phylogeny of life on this planet.

- We need to look at open niches. Differentiate.
- To develop complicated networks to maximize options and learn from each other
- Institute a Virtual Dept of Shameless Promotion – rise above the weeds and promote yourself – name new species after celebrities.
- Brought with him the International Species Institute – they develop a Top Ten list of new species – the next level is a species hall of fame to retroactively recognize important species – a small thing, but the underlying lesson is important – package and put out there for the public – and not take ourselves too seriously.

Myron M. – Zympher had a large program to reach down into the community and bring them up to us.

QW – ESF is really good at that, reaching out into society.

QW – talking with students reveals that we may have allowed the fundamentals to slip a little, e.g., few offer a philosophy of science course – grad or undergrad. We need this.

DD – COC action items – overview of courses approved, curriculum changes – no Sue – FNRM is putting in language as an option for GenEd and all programs should look at.

DD – FNRM is forging a new path and all programs should pay attention to the GenEd policy, and in light of the new SUNY Seamless Transfer policy, this is important to review.

Changes called to vote – all ayes – unanimous.

DD – deadlines given as well as next meeting time. They are paying attention to special topics and if you want one brought forward, then work on it. Also, looking at program reviews and encourage all to look at using foreign language as GenEd.

BM – P&T report

This comes from the whole committee, the College-wide Review Committee, 8 persons representing multiple depts. They are required to review the guidelines and make recommendations for improvements. Since being initiated, they've gone through several rounds of P&T reviews. They have reached consensus on changes to improve the process. They put aside their individual and dept views and looked at what is best for ESF. No one got everything they wanted – it was really by consensus. He will send out the revised standards and a 3 pg memo discussing the changes this afternoon. These have also been vetted through Pres. Wheeler and Academic Counsel. They are also scheduling meetings to talk through these changes with faculty. These are designed as an opportunity for feedback and question/answers. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Overarching guidelines for the review:

1. Use lessons they have learned over the last 2 yrs (~25 people have gone through – some things worked well, some didn't). No 1 goal is to make it

clearer to new faculty how to go through the P&T process – how to be successful. The CRC standards are a template for dept stds. When we look at the CRC standards they've tried to make it clear what is required at the college level. Dept stds also have to be considered. The process needs to be clearer for evaluators as well.

2. There were readability, consistency and conflicts issues with the current guidelines.
3. Logical flow and placement of ideas issues.
4. The standards were written before dept stds and need to be revised to be more current with respect to that.

Major changes & minor changes & additions will be set out in the memo to follow.