

Elected Faculty Council

Minutes of Meeting of April 29, 2003, 11:30 – 1:00

Present: Tom Rietz (chair), Bob Forsythe (visitor), Gary Fethke (ex officio), Forrest Nelson, Frank Schmidt (Secretary of the day), Rick Tubbs, Chuck Whiteman, Tim Lowe, and John Spitzer (member-elect).

1. Elections of new members have been held. The new members of the EFC are: John Spitzer, Gary Russell, and Jay Chistiansen-Szalanski. (Continuing members are Tim Lowe, Chuck Whiteman, and Rick Tubbs; members whose terms are ending are Forrest Nelson, Tom Rietz, and Frank Schmidt.)
2. Rick Tubbs reported that a major issue in the Executive Committee meeting is the question of whether lower paid staff and faculty should get larger percentage raises to prevent reductions in take home pay that can be produced by spiraling medical insurance costs. The EFC will discuss this issue at its next meeting as it affects the faculty. Rick Tubbs also reported that the Elected Staff Council would like for the EFC to sponsor a planter on the Papajohn patio and would like to have input on how the faculty-staff lounge can be made more attractive to the faculty. (It is not used much now by the faculty.)
3. The EFC part of the ASCSB college web site. The EFC voted to place the following on this web site: EFC Minutes, the final academic integrity document, the EFC 2002-2003 Annual Report, the EFC Report on ACE Ratings, the EFC Bylaws, and a membership list.
4. A vote of the full faculty on two proposed changes to the EFC Bylaws will be conducted soon. Two other changes will be explained to the faculty but not voted on, because these changes are mandated either by the union agreement with COGS or by the measures passed by the Faculty Senate.
5. The EFC Report on student ratings of teaching. The EFC voted to make some text changes and then to send the report out to the faculty for their reactions. The EFC urges faculty to provide feedback on, and reactions to, this report.
6. Proposed memo to Provost Whitmore on the committee on faculty governance. After extended discussion, the EFC voted to reduce the scope of this memo and to inform the Provost that efforts were underway within the college to clarify and strengthen faculty governance. Ideas and proposals for doing this were offered by EFC members and by Dean Fethke. The three off-going EFC members agreed to serve as transitional advisors to the new EFC on this matter to assist the new EFC.
7. The 2002-2003 EFC Annual Report to the faculty was approved with minor revisions and will soon be sent to faculty.

The next EFC meeting will be May 6, 11:30 – 1:00.