

**FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT
2008-2009**

Membership of the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC):

Mathieu Deflem (Chair, Fall Semester, Sociology)

Harold Friedman (Chair, Spring Semester, Medicine) 2011

Judith Rink (Physical Education) 2009

Camelia Knapp (Acting Chairperson 1/22/09, Geological Sciences) 2009

David Reisman (Biological Sciences) 2010

Tony Gregg (Medicine) 2010

Chris Robinson (Art) 2011 (sabbatical Spring Semester)

Ex Officio members: Bob Best, Chair Faculty Senate, Peter Becker-Provost, Ted Moore-Acting Provost (after Mark Becker left the University), Christine Curtis-Vice Provost for Faculty Development, Elise Ahyi-Assistant Provost for Academic Policy.

New Members elected to replace outgoing members beginning in Fall 2009 and ending 2012: Professor Laura Walls (English) and Professor Jan Breuer (Moore School of Business/Economics).

Meetings were held on the following 8 dates: 9/11/08, 10/10/08, 11/21/08, 12/11/08, 1/22/09, 2/23/09, 3/23/09, 4/20/09.

The work of the FAC centered around revisions in the *Faculty Manual*. During this academic year there were significant changes to the composition of the committee due to Sabbatical of Chris Robinson, and the departure of Mathieu Deflem who had chaired the committee for the fall semester. Dr. Friedman was elected chair for the remainder of the spring semester and the ensuing year.

Basically, there were three subcommittees working on different areas of the *Faculty Manual*: 1) A committee headed by William Rivers that was exploring a moral code or code of ethics for the manual along with changes in the voting rights and privileges of non-tenure tract faculty; 2) A committee headed by Libba Patterson looking at changes in the Promotion and Tenure portion of the document; 3) A committee headed by Franklyn Bolander for Research Policies. In addition, an effort was being made to get the AAUP to review critical areas of the *Faculty Manual* and

provide their input for our consideration. There was also an effort being made by Dr. James Buggy to work with a committee of the graduate school to examine the voting rights and privileges of non-tenured track faculty within the graduate schools. Finally, there were issues within the *Faculty Manual* for the FAC to specifically address that were more of the “housekeeping variety” to clean up some of the outdated language and policies. I will review each of these areas in turn.

- 1) Dr. Rivers’ committee presented a proposal from his committee to use the Carolinian Creed as a means of providing an ethical and moral compass to the faculty. This proposal was debated over several months. It was then recommended to be placed as a preface to the *Faculty Manual* and brought forth for a vote by the faculty in April. This proposal was passed by the general faculty.
- 2) Dr. Rivers’ committee made a suggestion for a change in the t *Faculty Manual* to give voting privileges to non-tenure track faculty. This proposal was briefly debated. Meanwhile, at the request of Dr. Best, Dr. Friedman contacted the AAUP for guidance on several issues. The rights of non-tenure track faculty was one of the issues raised and several comments were made by a representative of the AAUP (Gregory Scholtz, Associate Secretary and Director, Department of Academic Freedom, Tenure and Governance). A document titled “Contingent Appointments and the Academic Profession” was one of those referred to as a reference for our changes in the *Faculty Manual*. This document was sent to Dr. Rivers with a request that he distribute it to his committee to review over the summer and perhaps report back to FAC in the fall. Dr. Rivers agreed to continue to chair his committee.
- 3) The committee chaired by Dr. Libba Patterson held many meetings while working on the Promotion and Tenure portion of the *Faculty Manual*. Revisions were crafted and the FAC reviewed and supported these changes. The changes were presented to the faculty by posting on the web site and discussing them at an open forum held 3/18/09 at the Russell House auditorium. A final draft comparing the old and new documents however was not readied in time for a faculty vote. It will be prepared over the summer. This document will again be reviewed, approved and voted on by a called special session of the general faculty during the fall semester.
- 4) Two conflicting proposals were presented to FAC regarding research. One was drafted by the committee chaired by Dr. Frank Bolander and a second by SAM. Since we are in the middle of recruiting a new Vice President for research, it was decided by FAC to present the proposals to the new vice president. Then the vice president could help formulate and change the *Faculty Manual* policies regarding research
- 5) Dr. James Buggy and his committee on the voting and other rights of the non-tenure track graduate faculty is currently crafting a proposal that will be forwarded to the Graduate

Council for their consideration and approval. One of the key issues is whether non-tenure track graduate faculty can chair these committees. Once Graduate Council has approved the proposal, it will then come to FAC prior to going to the general faculty for a vote.

- 6) The FAC was engaged in revising the *Faculty Manual* on a number of minor house-keeping details in the *Faculty Manual*. These changes, including affirmative action and equal opportunity statements in the *Faculty Manual* were reconciled and passed by the general faculty during the April meeting. Both these changes, and those proposed last year are now going forward to the Board of Trustees.