

Fall 2006—Faculty & Professional Staff Meetings: Agendas & Minutes

September 8
September 26
October 24
November 28
December 12

Agenda: Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting

September 8, 2006
Lecture Center 102
3:00pm

1. Call to Order. (No minutes presented.)
2. Announcements.
3. Report of the President. "State of the College." Steven Poskanzer. (attachment 1)
4. Special Order: Introduction of New Academic and Professional Faculty.
5. Adjournment.

Attachment 1:

President's State of the College Address

September 8, 2006

On Move-In Day, along with many professional staff and students, I lugged boxes of computers and lamps and clothes and cases of snacks into jam-packed residence halls. Still in my sweaty t-shirt, I spoke at faculty orientation, marveling at the breadth of our newest colleagues' intellectual range. Back at the residence halls, I tried to comfort a teary freshman and her family, reassuring them that a slew of RAs, RDs, advisors and friends were here to help with the scary transition to college.

Each of us arrives on campus with a mixture of trepidation and joy. Finding one's way as a new student or new faculty member is exhilarating-but it is also hard. Even veterans of the academy feel a twinge of nervous excitement each autumn. We ask our ourselves: "Can I still inspire students?" "Where will my next interesting idea come from?" or simply "How can I do my job better?"

The new year is a reminder that each of us has chosen New Paltz as our academic home because we believe that this is a good, nurturing place to accomplish one's goals as a student, a teacher, a scholar, an artist or a professional.

The start of the academic year is also the perfect time to ask how we are progressing as students and scholars-and as an institution. It is this last question --How is the college faring?-that I address at the first faculty meeting. By doing so, we seek to launch the year in a spirit of collective commitment to New Paltz.

So let's take our institution's pulse. Let me share with you my sense of what the college has accomplished in the recent past, where we are headed-and how with your help we shall get there.

Our objective is bold: to make New Paltz "the site of the finest and most intellectually engaging undergraduate education in the State University of New York and a worthy rival to fine liberal arts colleges across the nation."

To achieve this goal we have developed, widely discussed and refined a list of priorities. These priorities drive our budgets and decisions, including new investments. We have begun to measure our progress with appropriate data. We share the results broadly and we discuss how we are doing with interested constituencies.

As I shall now detail, New Paltz is building genuine academic quality even as we address our weaknesses head-on.

We are committed to:

Continuing to raise the academic quality and selectivity of our students.

This year, 98% of our freshmen come from the top two SUNY selectivity groups, with an average SAT of 1160 and a high school GPA of slightly over 90-our highest ever. Last year 94% of our freshmen came from these top groups. The figure was as low as 67% as recently as 2001. Almost one-third of this fall's freshmen come from the highest SUNY group-also a new record. But I hasten to add that our staff considers the rigor of high school courses, letters of reference, and other evidence of character and promise in making admissions decisions.

We are also raising the quality of transfer students. In the past, we accepted transfers on a first-come, first-served basis. But this year we implemented a competitive transfer process analogous to how we admit freshmen. Respecting our links to regional community colleges, we still accepted the same number of transfers. But their average GPA jumped to 3.25. We expect you will see a positive difference in your classrooms.

Recruiting and retaining a diverse student body is more than just a proud New Paltz tradition. Such access is a hallmark of our quality. Applicants regularly tell us that our diversity is a draw. They understand that studying and living with a wide range of people prepares them for an increasingly global and diverse world.

This fall our percentage of minority students remains a robust 23 percent. We have also had considerable success recruiting international students, who constitute 3% of our student body. Our burgeoning joint degree programs with top Turkish universities brought 100 students to New Paltz this summer.

I have spoken often in the past about the critical importance of scholarships for student recruitment and retention, at both the undergraduate and graduate level. This is one of the places where the college's limited financial resources (and still-modest endowment) pinch most keenly. Rather than spend base operating funds to discount tuition and in effect "buy" students (like some of our SUNY and private competitors), we have chosen to invest our state funds in faculty lines and other building blocks of quality.

But this means that our private fundraising must focus on endowed scholarships so that student needs can be met in perpetuity. Last year, we raised \$1.9 million in cash and gifts in kind-a very strong year for us considering that we were not lucky to land a seven-figure gift like we did in 2005.

Another priority is...

Hiring and retaining faculty who are serious about both their scholarship and teaching.

For years the Deans, the Provost and I pledged that if we received an increase in our state funding, our highest priority would be additional full-time, tenure-track faculty lines. In this election year,

thanks to skillful advocacy by the Chancellor, campuses and the UUP, we have witnessed the most generous higher education budget in more than a decade.

And New Paltz is also among the beneficiaries of a new SUNY budget formula that restores funding to comprehensive colleges. Making good on our pledge, the college has added 32 new faculty this autumn (compared to 23 last year). Furthermore, we've approved and begun searches for 37 more faculty for fall 2007, primarily in the Liberal Arts and Sciences.

With these additions, New Paltz will be able to meaningfully address one of its longstanding problems-over-reliance on part-time faculty. Driving down the use of adjuncts was a prime consideration in allocating new lines. For instance, the English Department, which has had to use part-timers to teach both introductory composition courses and many upper-level major requirements, will hire four new tenure-track professors. If all planned searches are successful, we anticipate that the percentage of courses taught by adjuncts will drop by about 20 percent.

Expanded hiring will generate a set of "happy" problems, such as where to put all of our new colleagues. The largest block of new offices will be in the renovated Old Main Building. Restoring this campus landmark to aesthetic and functional glory will take several years, but we'll begin soon by converting the mothballed gymnasium in the wing adjacent to the Faculty Tower into two floors of offices. This summer state legislators Kevin Cahill and John Bonacic got us an additional \$3 million for Old Main-on top of the \$10 million we'd already garnered through our lobbying efforts. We estimate we'll need another \$8-10 million to complete this project the way it should be done. Securing those funds will be my major thrust in conversations with politicians and the Construction Fund.

Faculty recruitment and retention were aided significantly this year by governance bodies. Both the Provost and I were impressed with the work of the Central Committees on Reappointment and Promotion, chaired respectively by Elaine Hofstetter and Kequin Li. Because of faculty leadership, we achieved an exceptionally high level of congruence between committee recommendations and final personnel decisions. This reflects healthy shared governance.

And as you'll recall, the Personnel Procedures Task Force, led by Myra Mimlitsch-Gray, presented its work last May. We'll now implement its thoughtful recommendations regarding faculty expectations and career development.

To succeed, we must...

Teach a curriculum that prepares students for their lives and careers.

Here's one of the places where consultation with faculty over the last year led to a refinement of our To Do list. I agree with criticism that I didn't say enough in last year's speech about our campus's longtime emphasis on international education, or address how we should continue to be a leader in this realm. Such leadership is essential if we are to give our students a sophisticated understanding of the diversity and complexity of the world.

Newcomers to campus need to know that we attract the largest number of international students of any SUNY college and that we send more of our students abroad than any SUNY peer. I'm pleased that we've now received approval for our new Asian Studies major--making us the only SUNY college offering such a degree. And along with a team of New Paltz faculty and administrators, I've been involved with SUNY's efforts to create a new partnership--and likely a new campus--with Nanjing University in China.

Part of our teaching responsibility is assessing whether students are in fact learning and growing at the high levels envisioned by our curriculum. While our progress on assessment has been slower than desirable, we passed some milestones this year. Most important, SUNY finally approved our General Education Assessment Plan. Thanks to all of you who worked diligently to develop this plan

along with Associate Provost Laurel Garrick- Duhaney. I share your hope that the data we'll be collecting and analyzing will lead to even more effective pedagogy.

A nagging concern is how our General Education requirements shape students' intellectual growth, choice of major, and path to timely graduation. Our GE program is meant to be the focus of a student's first years at the college, but it is often something they grudgingly attend to on their way out the door. Indeed, unmet GE requirements are a common graduation deficiency. We especially need more courses in the Diversity, Science and Mathematics areas. The Deans and Provost are attempting to address these shortages with new hires, but-since curriculum is the special province of faculty-I would urge you to pay attention to this as well.

The administration has an obligation to provide faculty with the tools and information necessary to do your work. To this end, in addition to new colleagues who can share the teaching and service load and free up precious time,we've approved a number of expenditures to facilitate more effective teaching, namely:

- \$30,000 for buses for class-related trips;
- An increase in the Library's acquisition budget of nearly \$30,000;
- The completion of 15 new smart classrooms;

We've also set aside \$25,000 in research support for faculty whose work does not lend itself easily to the involvement of individual projects for students. And we have launched a comprehensive space planning study in the Library.

Finally, we are trying to eliminate what I think of as "stones in your shoes"-those chronic annoyances that sap one's spirit. This spring, I charged a group led by Dean Hadi Salavitabar to look for ways to simplify and streamline the travel reimbursement process within the constraints of state requirements.

Also on our list is...

Linking student intellectual growth with faculty scholarship.

New Paltz is distinguishing itself from its competitors by offering undergraduates capstone experiences such as internships, student shows, and faculty-mentored research. Last year we established a \$90,000 pool of competitive student research grants, and these awards have already proved popular and successful. For instance, three geology students worked this summer with Professor Shafiul Chowdhury assessing water quality in the Marakill Watershed. A key research tool was a new ion chromatograph bought with funds secured by our Congressman and alum Maurice Hinchey. Applied research like this benefits the local community and helps our strongest students grow intellectually-ideally to the point where they will be outstanding candidates for graduate school.

In my 2005 State of the College address, I requested guidance from Faculty Governance on structures and procedures to promote student capstones. With John Vanderlippe driving the discussion, the faculty voted to establish an Advisory Board and a new part-time post of Director of Student Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities. I'm pleased to report that we've named Maureen Morrow to this important job. She and the Advisory Board will take the lead in awarding our stipend dollars.

In a related vein, my conversations with faculty this summer revealed a growing interest in promoting service learning opportunities-structured internship, volunteer and other extra-classroom experiences that would be integrated with our curriculum to help students learn to care for others and address community needs. Please consider joining in a dialogue about service learning that will begin this fall. It may lead to ideas and programs that complement our push for student research.

Our vision for the college recognizes that...

Our residential character will reinforce our educational goals.

We want to offer a rich and lively co-curriculum that is linked to the classroom, responds to students' interests and takes full advantage of our extraordinary location. Accordingly, this year we've:

- Added \$25,000 in new funds for expanded student activities and speakers--and hired a junior staff member who'll be responsible for delivering events with broad student interest.
- Opened a new Athletic and Wellness Center, which includes a gymnasium, indoor jogging track, and state-of-the-art weight training and fitness machines.
- Completed a long-needed renovation of the Food Court in the Student Union Building--which now offers students more menu choices in a stylish setting that sports plenty of New Paltz blue and orange!
 - This renovation is separate from the project to build a \$10 million addition to the Union, which also proceeds apace. We have selected an architect, who will meet with students and staff this fall to discuss elements of the new addition--including our intention to make this a "green design" project.

As a residential campus, we should pay particular attention to the condition of our buildings and grounds. Doing so reflects our values and affects our morale. This summer, we performed an unprecedented volume--about \$8 million--of maintenance and renovation work. Projects completed or authorized include:

- New windows, carpeting, lighting, upgraded common areas and new roofs in aging residence halls.
- Renovating the main generator that supplies heat and hot water to most campus buildings.
- Replacing the shabby, worn-out and ugly seats in LC 102 and 108

In my brown bag lunches and breakfasts with faculty I heard repeatedly and passionately about chronic elevator problems in Faculty Tower. We've therefore approved the replacement of the control panels in these elevators, which should make things better.

And, as you may recall, last spring we approved a project to air condition the Humanities Building.

Those same meetings also reinforced the pressing need for reasonably proximate and affordable faculty/staff housing. This is an issue I've been speaking about and working on since my inauguration. Put simply, the quality of education we offer and the spirit of our academic community will be enhanced if many faculty/staff live near campus. The ultimate solution is likely to be complex and protracted, as most real estate ventures are. But to better gauge our needs, in the coming weeks our Office of Institutional Research will conduct a survey of the housing desires and choices made by recently hired colleagues.

Part of our vision is...

Meeting student needs.

To keep faith with our students and their families, we need to understand the services they require to achieve their goals. Our administrative processes and policies must then be geared to provide those services. Let me give an example, using one of New Paltz's most visible weaknesses--the fact that the vast majority of our students who expect to graduate in four years do not in fact do so. The four-year graduation rate for freshmen who entered in fall 2001 was 35 percent. That's lower than at many peer colleges.

So over the last year we have mounted a concerted effort to raise our four- and six-year graduation rates. Faculty governance wrote and rewrote academic policies that promote progress to degree. We've added a new staff member in Records and Registration to expand and manage the Degree Audit Reporting System. We now provide advisors with electronic tools such as a next-generation online catalog and eight-semester course plans. And we are hiring three additional academic advisors, one to work closely with seniors, and the others to help undecided students choose their majors and upper-division students complete their GE requirements.

The services we must provide to students extend beyond advising and beyond the undergraduate population. Accordingly, we added some part-time staff in the Graduate School to provide registration, billing, financial aid and certification assistance during evenings and weekends. And, in response to student concerns about security, we will install card access in Smiley and the Old Library.

Legitimately heightened expectations about student service cannot be blithely sloughed off on our staff. These devoted professionals require training and other support to deliver new levels of customer-friendly and effective service. As an initial step, the Office of Human Resources has started a training series for supervisors. But all levels of staff need the proper tools and time to do their jobs well. A key tool in many offices will be Banner administrative computing systems that generate enrollment and billing records and calculate financial aid. Many of your colleagues have been pulling long hours preparing for the 2007 transition from our old legacy systems to Banner. Their hard work will result in more coordinated and adaptable systems that help us work smarter. We appreciate your patience as this transition unfolds.

Another priority is...

Addressing regional economic and schooling needs.

New Paltz aims to be a willing partner-and supplier of talent in the form of graduates and faculty expertise-to local businesses, schools, and social service agencies.

In keeping with our emphasis on graduate programs that meet regional needs, we have added new master's programs:

- In the School of Education, five programs that combine special ed, literacy and elementary ed to provide more certification options;
- A master's in Music Therapy that replaces and upgrades our strong bachelor's program;
- A Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling that meets new state licensure requirements; and
- We have submitted a letter of intent to start a new Master's in School Counseling.

This summer we also successfully competed for additional funding from SUNY that will allow our Nursing program to offer courses at local hospitals and community colleges through interactive television. This will make it easier for working nurses to pursue BSN or MSN degrees.

To educate a sometimes-uninformed public, we periodically share new data and examples about how we drive the local economy, how many jobs we create, and how many lives we enlighten and transform. This is a conscious part of our strategy to win public support and funding. We're now working on our 2006 impact statement, which will have a special focus on community partnerships. Once that document is completed, I'll be taking it-and talking it up-to every civic group, political leader and Chamber of Commerce in the region.

Which brings me to the next element of our Vision.....

Being a cultural and intellectual hub for the mid-Hudson region.

We should be a magnet that draws faculty, staff, students and local residents to fine and performing arts events, athletic contests and public lectures. Of course, before you can attend college events you need to find your way here-which is not easy. Fortunately, better signage directing visitors to campus is coming soon on Route 299, thanks to cooperation from the State Department of Transportation. And once visitors do arrive, our new Welcome Center in the lobby of the Administration Building presents the college's best face.

One last outreach initiative that should build momentum this fall is the Branding Task Force. This group has been gathering data about faculty, staff, alumni and current and prospective students' knowledge of and impressions of the college. With this information, we'll have a richer understanding

of how our various constituencies view us-which will aid in our marketing, student recruitment and general outreach. One prominent theme that is emerging is the close connections that form at New Paltz between faculty and students. This is a powerful and distinctive strength.

The themes and priorities I have articulated today have been discussed and celebrated by our community for some time. They fit together as neatly as a jigsaw puzzle and they lead directly to our desired outcome: a virtuous and self-reinforcing cycle where the work of talented faculty enhances our understanding of the world....which raises the stature of the college....which helps us recruit outstanding students...who are educated here in ways that make them proud alumni....whose lavish generosity lets us recruit more talented faculty.....and so on.

At this opening faculty meeting I would ask each of you to think about how your own work fits within this vision, and how your day-to-day activities and decisions can advance our shared goals.

Further progress demands that we address our vulnerabilities:

- too many part-time faculty;
- low graduation rates;
- embracing assessment;
- competing more successfully for sponsored research funds;
- remaining diverse;
- raising selectivity.

But our progress depends ever so much more on our manifold strengths: decades of recruiting ever-stronger students; graduate programs that are acclaimed in the region; adherence to rigorous standards of scholarship and teaching; a commitment to the Liberal Arts that suffuses the curriculum; a questing and occasionally rambunctious spirit where any question can be asked and any answer will be scrutinized; mutual pledges to civility in our intellectual exchanges and our dealings with one another; and above all, talented men and women who choose to come here-like our new colleagues you'll meet in a moment-colleagues we hope will look back decades later on a happy and fulfilling career spent in the shadow of the Gunks.

Thank you very much.

I look forward to discussing these topics and your questions throughout the fall.

Steve Poskanzer

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Agenda: Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Lecture Center 108

11:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty & Professional Staff Meetings of May 11, 2006 and September 8, 2006.
3. Announcements.
4. Report of the President. Steven Poskanzer. Questions and Action Items from the Floor.
5. Reports and Action Items from Officers, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees and other Agencies of the College Faculty. Questions and action items from the floor.

1. Tenure & Reappointment Committee. Elaine Hofstetter.

6. Report of the Presiding Officer of the Faculty and Professional Staff. John VanderLippe.

7. Unfinished business.

8. New business.

9. Adjournment.

Minutes: Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Lecture Center 102

1. Meeting called to order at 11:38.
2. Minutes of the Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting of April 11, 2006 approved as written.
3. Announcements: none.
4. Report of the president and questions and action items from the floor.

A. President's report (Appendix A)

1. The President had circulated a report by email.
2. The president stressed success in faculty hiring, with the successful conclusion of 22 of 25 searches, the possibility that the remaining searches would also conclude successfully, and new hires where needed next year.
3. In addition, the search for a new director of institutional research is near fruition.
4. The president then asked if there were questions.

B. Discussion of the situation with the student government leaders

1. In response to a question from Judy Dorney about the "situation with the student government leaders," the president read a prepared statement. About two-dozen questions and comments on the same topic followed.
2. Jeff Miller: Are students who have made controversial political statements being targeted for selective enforcement of the rules?
3. Steve Poskanzer: We try to enforce rules fairly and appropriately.
4. Eugene Heath: Can you say more about overtures to these students?
5. The president asked David Rooney to comment.
6. David Rooney: We can't say too much because of the judicial proceedings. There have been previous warnings and meetings. There have been numerous violations. We will let the process run its course and receive recommendations. We would much rather educate than punish. We have been engaged in a continual conversation that did not lead to a change in behavior. Administrators do not make or solicit judicial charges, but have pointed out the process that is available. There have never been charges that my office has violated student rights. We have let a number of things go.
7. Eugene Heath: I am not asking a question about judicial proceedings. There is something "April foolish" about the militia. Perhaps there could have been a humorous way of defusing it. I presume that there is a lot that goes on that we don't know about because problems have been successfully defused.
8. David Rooney: That is correct.
9. Rose Rudnitiski: These student leaders have access to the administration but have often been rebuffed, which has led to anger. There is a maturity issue. They went too far. It started with Accepted Students' Day, which was in fact April Fool's Day. When tenured, we view all relationships as permanent, and we seek to work things out.
10. John VanderLippe: held a meeting this week with student leaders Stephanie Adika, Diego Genera-Quinones, Justin Holmes, and R.J. Partington III. Talked at length, and asked them their goals. Free speech is at the heart of the academic enterprise; we need to protect that without lives, though not necessarily with militias. We are a community, and all have the power to be disruptive, but that would create a bad legacy. The students said the militia issue was not their doing originally, but then they became connected with it. They asked how to get out of the situation and I suggested two options: 1) Stay quiet through the summer and then disavow the mistakes, stupidity, misunderstanding in the fall, 2) Disavow now. The students are willing to talk. However, the Presiding Officer is the liaison between faculty and administration, not between administrators and students.
11. Steven Poskanzer: It is never too late to have reasoned dialogue. Nothing would please me more than that they spend the summer thinking about what we can do together.
12. David Rooney: The debate regarding militia is free speech, and no one is being punished for it.
13. Jeff Miller: We don't know all the facts but the timing and the charges seem suspect.
14. David Rooney: It is wrong to say the timing is suspicious because not all judicial proceedings students may be facing arose after the militia controversy. Once the process has run its course all the details can come out if all parties agree. While legal action pending, we cannot respond, in order to protect the privacy of students. I would love to be able to

show the entire file. The students can put out any facts they choose but it is important to note the administration cannot respond in order to protect the students' rights.

15. Janice Anderson: What gets lost is the extreme frustration of students who feel that these students don't represent the student body. Is there concern about the possibility of disruptive activity at graduation?
16. Steve Poskanzer: There is a distinction between speech and conduct. When protesters sat silently last year that was totally protected. Interfering with graduation would be a different situation.
17. Eugene Heath: I know Justin Holmes, and think he is intelligent and creative. His recent statement opened with an apology, which is all too rare. The statement seemed well written and measured; I don't know if it is correct. I had not seen Wikipaltz previously but looking at it last night it did not seem problematic. What is the problem with Wikipaltz?
18. Rose Rudnitski: It has been cleaned up; the problem was slander.
19. Steve Poskanzer: Not aware of any complaint about Wikipaltz.
20. David Rooney: The students can post what they want, but we cannot put out a statement until the process ends and if everyone agrees.
21. Brian Obach: Obviously this has been troublesome to many of us. The students were elected; I have little sympathy for students who complain they are not represented given the low turnout in the election. If the students have been harassing people, charges should be brought. If they are engaged in illegal activities, they should be thrown out. But if people are frustrated with them because they seem obnoxious that is not a reason for arrests.
22. David Rooney: Some students facing three or four charges in the last 4 weeks. Many violations charged in two different venues. There has not been a concerted effort to find people.
23. Rose Rudnitski: There is concern about the reputation of the college. There is also suspicion of a lack of fairness. If we are perceived as a college campus that goes against vocal students who have made some big mistakes, that doesn't do us any good.
24. Corinna Caracci: I'm one of the many professionals harassed by these students. In 17 years at New Paltz I have earned respect from students. I brought charges because I felt my safety was in jeopardy. Students have been belligerent and combative. This doesn't have anything to do with previous actions. People have seen video on Wikipaltz, but no one knows how I felt at that moment. I am on campus a lot late at night. I need to get an order of protection against these students.
25. Glenn Geher: In the Senate the students have been somewhat disruptive. The administration should be commended for the handling College Terrace meeting: Steve invited students into the meeting.
26. Reva Wolf: I also serve on the Senate, I have seen the frustration of the students; people feel damaged and hurt, frustration is boiling over. It behooves us to look at ourselves and ask what went wrong. The students are not idiots. The most important thing is to learn. It is significant that Justin's statement begins with an apology.

Reports and Action Items from Officers, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, and questions and actions items from the floor.

Report of the Vice President for Administration

1. Questions for the Vice President: Any chance of money being impounded or not spent? No, revenue will stay in the budget.
2. John Vanderlippe: We all wish Johanna well on her retirement.
3. Applause.

Curriculum Committee

1. Academic Senate reported program changes that had been unanimously approved: TESOL Undergraduate program changes, new minor in environmental science, minor in environmental studies.
2. *The faculty approved the program changes.*

Calendars

1. **Glenn Geher presented proposed previously circulated calendars for 2008-11. Having an extended calendar, planned for several years, provides lots of benefits. The committee set aside the previously contentious debate about traditionally included religious holidays. The proposed calendars reduce substitution days, eliminate as many days without classes after 3:30 as possible, and include the Persian New Year, 3/21.**
 2. *The faculty unanimously approved the calendar.*

D. Policy: Limit to attempting a course for a grade.

1. A motion on this policy was amended to read: "A course may be attempted for a grade no more than two times. A 'grade' is defined as including A-F, W, S/U, or R. Students may appeal decisions made under this policy to the Dean who supervises the course."

2. There was brief discussion of the origins of, and reasons for, the proposal, followed by extended discussion of whether “T” should be included as a grade.
3. It was noted that students must have permission to take the same class elsewhere and transfer the credit.
4. ***The motion was approved as amended.***

E. Organization Committee Proposal to create a Task Force on Governance Participation and Voting Rights for Part-Time Academic and Professional Faculty

1. Peter Brown introduced discussion of the motion noting the myth that non-tenure track people have other jobs and are not interested in tenure track positions. For example Russ Karasik has taught in the Psychology Department for 18 years. Of the contingent faculty, 43% have been here for more than 5 years, 25% more than 10 years. Only 20% have full time jobs. It is time to include them as much as possible, not to pretend that they don’t exist. Foreign Languages has 10 fulltime faculty and 29 adjuncts, who teach 72 percent of courses. There is not a lot of communication with part-timers at department, college, and social functions. We should have a stronger institutional commitment to part-timers. Among the issues to be addressed are DSI, potential service on committees, advising, which could be done by timers and compensated.

2. Paul Zuckerman objected that Peter Brown’s remarks are directed to outcomes desired from the task force rather than to the motion to create the task force.

3. Mary Kahl, co-chair of Organization Committee, reported that the Committee has been considering the issue but cannot decide it. She noted that the individual who did research for consideration of the issue was withholding it because of frustration with lobbying on outcome.

4. Discussion followed on whether the motion implied a policy decision had already been made.

5. By a vote of 17-16 the second and third paragraphs of the proposal were amended to read as follows:

Be it resolved, that a Task Force be created to review the feasibility of granting part-time academic and professional faculty voting rights in departmental, divisional, and campus-wide governance and elections, and

Be it further resolved, that the aforementioned Task Force should reports its findings to the full faculty and professional faculty and may offer suggestions for alterations to the current structures or procedures for governance participation and voting rights by part-time academic and professional faculty

6. Elaine Hofstetter objected to another task force.

7. ***The motion was agreed to by a vote of 28-12.***

F. Report on Elections

1. Gwen Havranek reported that 149 ballots received in the elections, all uncontested.

a. Presiding Officer John Vanderlippe 109 votes.

b. Faculty Ombudsperson: Janice Anderson 100 votes.

c. Faculty Senator Rose Rudnitski. 99 votes.

d. Write in candidates- 6 for faculty senator. Runoff in fall to determine alternate.

6. Remaining items on the agenda deferred.

A. CRAL report questions may be directed to Stella Deen.

7. Adjourned 1:38.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Lefkowitz

Department of Political Science and International Relations

Appendix A: President’s Report

**President’s Report
Faculty and Professional Faculty Meeting
May 11, 2006**

I've peppered you with e-mails this week, so my report will be relatively brief—something I expect everyone will appreciate, given the end-of-the-semester crunch.

Enrollment: We reached an all-time record this year. We exceeded 15,000 undergraduate applications. Our transfer applications are also the highest since 1993.

But as you've heard me say *ad nauseam*, it's not the number of applications but the number and quality of enrolled students that is the acid test of our admissions efforts. Here, too, the news is good. We've received 1,000 freshmen deposits for a class target of 1,000. With about 60 more EOP deposits expected and a similar number of freshman withdrawals due to summer "melt," we expect to be right on our desired goal. This year, 97.7% of the general admit freshmen are from SUNY selectivity groups 1 and 2, compared to 94.4% last year and 67% in 2001.

We have received 680 full-time transfer student deposits relative to a target of 600. After "melt" (which in the past has been driven largely by a tight housing market both on and off campus), we should be close to our target. Even with our new focus this year on accepting the strongest transfer applicants (those with a GPA of 3.0 or greater), our transfer yield rate remained solid.

State Budget: As you've undoubtedly all heard, both the Senate and the Assembly overrode the Governor's veto of SUNY funding, including:

- \$57 million of additional support for state-operated campuses, including \$25 million for new full-time faculty and enrollment growth and \$32 million for various mandatory/contractual costs.
- Over \$400 million for additional capital projects—including, I am pleased to say, \$10 million toward the renovation of Old Main. As I've already told our state legislators (who were heroes in getting us this funding), I'll be back next year for the other half of the cost of this project!
- Restoration of TAP funding.

We all know the refrain that it "ain't over 'til it's over." It's still possible that the Governor's Budget Office may impound some or all of this money, refusing to release it to campuses. But if this does not happen, we will be enjoying the best SUNY operating budget in years, and we intend to use any incremental funds to enhance the strength of this campus.

Golf Tournament:

We will hold our Seventh Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament on Monday, June 19, at Wiltwyck Golf Club in Kingston. As you may already know, the tournament funds scholarships for outstanding students. I hope that any golfers among you will consider participating. As long as the sun is warm and the beer is cold, even complete duffers like me have a great time!

Chancellor's Award: Congratulations are in order for Professor Rimer Cardillo of the Art Department, who has been named a recipient of a Chancellor's Award for Excellence for Scholarship and Creative Activity. Rimer has a justifiably renowned international reputation as a printmaker and sculptor. Closer to home, his mural adorns the east side of the Humanities Building. Rimer will receive his Chancellor's Award Medal during Undergraduate Commencement.

Commencement: This year we will have a record 90 percent participation in our Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony on Sunday, May 21, at 10 a.m. Among those graduating will be our first cohort of six Turkish students in the Istanbul Technical University-SUNY New Paltz dual degree program in business and economics. The Rector of ITU will be present to celebrate the conferring of these degrees. As you know, we will also be awarding Arthur Sulzberger Jr., the publisher of *The New York Times*, an honorary doctorate of humane letters. Consistent with our custom, we will be hooding all graduate degree recipients at the Graduate Commencement on Friday, May 19, at 6 p.m. I hope as many faculty as possible will participate in these events. For me, at least, seeing the smiles on the faces of the graduates and their families makes the entire year worthwhile.

As another academic year comes to its close, let me extend my thanks to each of you for the hard and successful work that is making New Paltz succeed. We're attracting great students, our latest round of faculty hires will bring us gifted new colleagues this fall, and we're slowly but surely garnering the funds and external recognition that are commensurate with our quality.

In keeping with one of our newest traditions, we'll put a coda on this academic year with our all-faculty and staff appreciation barbecue on Tuesday, May 23, starting at 11:30 a.m. on the Old Main Quad. See you there!

Minutes: Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting

Friday, September 8, 2006

- 1) Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm.
- 2) Announcements:
 - a. Nancy Schniedewind announced that the Multicultural Education Conference will be held on November 3rd, 2006.
 - b. Glen McNitt announced two UUP meetings: on Nov. 18, from 12:00-1:30, there will be a chapter meeting; on October 16, from 12:00-2:00 the UUP Negotiations Team will be available to meet with faculty in the Terrace. McNitt also announced that the Professional Development Award deadline is earlier this year. UUP will accept applications between September 15 and October 15.
 - c. Margaret Wade-Lewis announced “The Diaspora: African American/African, Caribbean, and Latino Legacies in the Northeast,” a one-day conference to be held on October 21.
- 3) Steve Poskanzer, President, gave the annual “State of the College” address. The full address can be read at on-line at: <http://www.newpaltz.edu/president/stateofthecollege.html>
- 4) Special Order: Introduction of New Academic and Professional Faculty.
- 5) Meeting Adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Submitted by Lee Bernstein

Secretary *pro tempore*

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Agenda: Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

Lecture Center 108

11:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting of September 26, 2006.
3. Announcements.
4. Report of the President. Steven Poskanzer. Questions and Action Items from the Floor.
5. Reports and Action Items from Officers, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees and other Agencies of the College Faculty. Questions and action items from the floor.
 - CRAL. Gwen Havranek & Yaser Khalifa.
6. Report of the Presiding Officer of the Faculty and Professional Staff. John VanderLippe.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Adjournment.

Minutes: Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Lecture Center 108

1. Meeting called to order at 11:31 AM
2. Approval of the Minutes of 5/11/06 and 9/8/06
 - a. May 11th, 2006 – minutes approved as written
 - b. September 8th, 2006 – minutes approved as written
3. Announcements
 - a. Susan Lewis (History) will be having hours where she will be available to listen to faculty concerns regarding contract negotiations
 - b. Paul Brooks, a *Times-Herald Record* reporter, was present at the meeting and introduced himself. The presiding officer confirmed that there were no objections to his presence.
 - c. Richard Kelder – two upcoming speakers:
 - i. On October 4th in the TLC, Sociologist Steve Fuller (University of Warwick, UK) will give a talk at the "Conceptual Resources for Understanding Contemporary Changes in Science." On Thursday, October 5th he will speak at 6 PM in the Music Recital Hall in College Hall on "The Fate of Humanity and the Future of Science."
 - ii. On October 20th at 10 AM, Michael Berube, Paterno Family Professor of Literature at Penn State University, will speak on issues and topics from his new book, *What's Liberal About Liberal Education*.
 - d. Gerald Benjamin (Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences) –
 - i. One Book One New Paltz events begin next week, including discussion groups, a gallery opening, and a campus visit by Edwidge Danticat, the author of *Dew Breaker*
 - ii. The college's Phi Beta Kappa application is nearly complete – current members of the society among the faculty are sought. Any names should be sent to Dean Benjamin or Lloyd Lee, along with the year of induction and institution when inducted.
4. Report of the President. Steven Poskanzer (Appendix A)
 - a. A delegation from Tecnológico de Monterrey (Technical University of Monterrey, Mexico) was on campus recently, and the institution is interested in exchange programs in various areas, notably international relations.
 - b. Questions from the floor:
 - i. In response to a question from the floor regarding gender orientation and sports participation, President Poskanzer reiterated the campus policies on, and intolerance of, discrimination
5. Tenure & Reappointment Committee Report – Elaine Hofstetter (Secondary Education), Chair (Appendix B)
 - a. Continued suggestions/recommendations from the committee:
 - i. Each school/college should consider hosting a forum on dossier preparation
 - ii. The committee requests that those writing letters to accompany dossiers (e.g., department chairs, deans) be direct and respond to the issues that are raised by the dossier
 - iii. Candidates for tenure and reappointment should follow the published guidelines for the personal narrative (e.g., length) and the organization of the dossier
 - b. Statistical information from the 2005-2006 academic year:
 - i. The committee reviewed 39 (4 in Fall 2005, 35 in Spring 2006) dossiers; 34 of 39 were in complete agreement with all other recommending bodies.
 - ii. In five cases, the committee disagreed with dean's recommendation
 - iii. In four cases, the committee disagreed with department chair recommendations
 - iv. In four cases, the committee disagreed with department subcommittee recommendations
 - v. In one case, the committee disagreed with the Vice President for Academic Affairs and President
 - c. Information resulting from questions from the floor:
 - i. Provost Lavalley – we need to be careful not to specify a particular number of scholarly works or publications required for tenure
 - ii. Dean Benjamin – scholarship is only one piece to be evaluated, as faculty must be fine teachers to be granted tenure

- iii. Elaine Hofstetter –
 - 1. LA&S is still missing its third representative to the committee.
 - 2. She is unable to comment on the procedures used by the Promotion and Salary Increase Committee (Presiding Officer Vanderlippe indicated that both committees work from a common document which is available on the faculty governance web page).
 - 3. The committee depends upon the recommendation letters to aid in their judgments the value of any particular piece of scholarship (e.g., encyclopedia entries).
 - 4. Additional information regarding the numbers of instances where disagreements with other bodies were in the positive or negative direction was not available at the meeting. Elaine will make this information available in the near future.
- 6. Presiding Officer's Report to the Faculty (John VanderLippe) (Appendix C)
 - a. The report sent out by e-mail was incorrectly titled "Report to the Academic Senate"
 - b. A list of 2006-2007 faculty governance committees and the representatives associated with each committee will be up on the faculty governance web site soon
 - c. A new task force regarding the incorporation of part time and contingent faculty into the faculty governance structure is soon to be constituted; let the Presiding Officer know if you are interested in joining.
 - d. The Personnel Task Force made 47 recommendations regarding personnel processes. Faculty discussions on some of the more complex recommendations (e.g., mentoring, external reviewers, relative weight of various evidence in the dossiers) will be taking place this year.
 - e. Questions from the floor
 - i. Rose Rudnitski (Educational Studies) – a morale survey was conducted some time ago, and she wondered whether another survey would be appropriate and whether there was some agreement about a schedule for future surveys.
- 7. Unfinished Business – no unfinished business
- 8. New Business – no new business
- 9. Adjourned 12:24 PM

Respectfully submitted,
 Doug Maynard, Psychology
 Secretary Pro Tem

Appendix A: President's Report

Faculty and Professional Faculty Meeting September 26, 2006

Given that I delivered a lengthy State of the College report earlier this month, I'll keep this update relatively short. If you haven't already read my Fall 2006 State of the College address, please feel free to visit <http://www.newpaltz.edu/president/stateofthecollege.html> where you can hear a recording of the speech or read a copy. There are four additional items that I want to make sure you are aware of.

First, we have begun a search for a new Vice President for Finance and Administration—our most senior nonacademic leadership post. This is a critically important hire, and when the new VP arrives, his or her first task will be to think carefully about the organizational structure and delivery of top-notch service through administrative offices. Dr. Dave Rooney, Vice President for Student Affairs, is chairing the search committee, which includes Dr. Gerald Benjamin, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Dr. John VanderLippe, Presiding Officer of the Faculty, Julie Majak, Director of Administrative Services, John Shupe, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management, and Sally Cross, Director of Development.

Our Middle States Periodic Review Report has been very favorably reviewed by our external evaluators. Their response will be made available on my.newpaltz.edu (at the same location as the PRR document itself). With this positive report, we should be very well positioned for our next 10-year review and site visit in 2011. But we've got several more years before we really focus on that. My thanks to the committee, especially the faculty members, Provost David Lavalley and Executive Assistant to the Provost, Mary Beth Collier.

We understand from SUNY Central that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which completes Mission Review for New Paltz, is finalized and ready for the Chancellor's signature. The current version of that document may also be found in my.newpaltz.edu

Finally, I want to share some impressive news confirming the quality of New Paltz's Educational Opportunity Program. Our EOP has the highest graduation rate in SUNY by a wide margin—72%--which puts us well ahead of Binghamton (second) and Geneseo (third). EOP, which has long featured highly personalized academic and career counseling, pre-freshman summer programs, tutoring and diagnostic testing, provides a very attractive model for our efforts to increase graduation rates in the general student body. If we can replicate such success with our general admit students, these students and their parents will thank us.

I look forward to discussing these topics and any other questions you may have next week.

Appendix B: Committee on Tenure and Reappointment 2005-2006 Report

Committee members:

Lewis Brownstein	Julio Gonzalez
Elisa Davila	Rose Rudnitski (Spring)
Gerlinde Barley	Surinder Tikoo
Mark Dziuba	John Wade
Elaine Hofstetter (chair)	Michael Muffs (Fall)

Continued committee suggestions and recommendations:

1. Each college/school, led by committee members and tenured faculty, should consider hosting a forum on dossier preparation
2. Letters written by the sub-committee chairs, the department chairs, and the deans need to be direct.
3. The faculty personal narrative needs to carefully follow the published guidelines.
4. The dossier organization needs to carefully follow the published guidelines.

Statistical Information:

1. The committee reviewed 39 (4 Fall, 35 spring) dossiers during the academic year 2005-2006.
2. 34/39 recommendations of the committee were in complete agreement with the department sub-committees, department chairs, deans, vice president for academic affairs, and the president.
3. 5/39 recommendations of the committee disagreed with the dean's recommendation.
4. 4/39 recommendations of the committee disagreed with the department chair's recommendation.
5. 4/39 recommendations of the committee disagreed with the department sub-committee's recommendation.
6. 1/39 the committee disagreed with the vice president for academic affairs' and the president's decision.

Appendix C: Presiding Officer's Report

Academic and Professional Faculty Meeting September 26, 2006

My report today is partly following up on developments from last year, and partly to look ahead to issues that are now before shared governance.

First I want to thank the Officers, and Chairs of all the Central Committees, and Task Forces from last year:

Janice Anderson, Ombudsperson
Kevin Caskey, Curriculum
Kathleen Dowley, Faculty Secretary
Ben Endres, SEI Task Force
Glenn Geher, Academic Affairs
Gwen Havranek, CRAL
Elaine Hofstetter, Tenure and Reappointment Committee
Mary Kahl, Organization Committee, Co-Chair
Yasser Khalifa, CRAL
Keqin Li, Promotion & Salary Committee
Stephan Macaluso, Organization Committee, Co-Chair
Tom McQuaide, Educational Technology
Myra Mimlitsch-Gray, Personnel Task Force
Simin Mozayeni, Academic Senate, VP
Corinne Nyquist, Budget, Goals & Plans
Rose Rudnitski, University Faculty Senator
Paul Zuckerman, Faculty Parliamentarian
My special thanks to Ardis Marcotte, Secretary of Faculty Governance.

Thanks also to:

Stephanie Adika, SA VPAA
Alan Dunefsky, Professional Staff Council, Chair
David Appelbaum, Chair LA&S Senate
Jon Raskin, Graduate Council
Mark Dziuba, F&PA Council
Nancy Nielson, Library
Mary Sawyer, Education Council
Andy Pletch, Science and Engineering
Joel Neuman, Business Council

And my thanks to: Steven Poskanzer, David Lavallee, Shelly Wright, Mary Beth Collier, and Adrienne Mora, who managed the Faculty Governance website.

I organized or attended 101 meetings related to governance last year, and exchanged approximately 1500 e-mails related to governance.

Last year there were two major developments in governance:

1. Personnel Task Force.
 - a. Chaired by Myra Mimlitsch-Gray, and charged with the Task of reviewing and recommending improvements in our policies and procedures for reappointment, tenure, promotion and salary increase.
 - b. The Task Force report, with 47 recommendations was accepted at the Special Meeting of the Teaching & Professional Faculty on May 5th.
 - c. I began working over the summer to develop a plan for distributing the various recommendations to committees and other administrative bodies on campus for them to consider and to report back to the Academic and Professional Faculty this year on implementation of the recommendations. I have had two meetings so far with President Poskanzer, Provost Lavallee and Asst. VP Cathy Beard, to discuss the Task Force's recommendations, with the aim of making sure we're on the same page in terms of how we view the nature of the recommendations, and to discuss process in implementing the recommendations.
 - d. Some of the recommendations were pretty straight forward, and Provost Lavallee has already begun to implement some of the recommendations, in particular regarding orientation of new faculty; and HR has also begun to implement recommendations regarding orientation and review of professional faculty.
 - e. Other recommendations, for instance those related to mentoring, outside evaluators, or construction and handling of portfolios, are not so clear cut, and so these will be referred to appropriate committees for their consideration and action over the course of this year.
 - f. I will have a more comprehensive report on the Personnel Task Force recommendations at the next Academic Senate meeting.
2. Creation of an Advisory Board for Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities.
 - a. The call for volunteers for the Board attracted about 20 volunteers, from across campus, who nominated Maureen Morrow, of Biology, as Director.
 - b. The Board has been active since the Spring, so keep an eye open for announcements and calls for proposals from the Board soon.

In addition to acting on recommendations of Personnel Task Force, I see 2 main issues for governance this year: **professionalism**

1. SEI's. The SEI Task Force has submitted its report to the Academic Affairs Committee, and I have seen the report. I want the Executive Committee to review the report, then bring it to the Academic Senate at the next meeting.
2. Task Force on integrating Part-Time & Contingent Faculty into governance at New Paltz.
 - a. Motion passed by Faculty in May.
 - b. I would appreciate your help with putting this task force together. I will be sending out a message to the all-fs asking for volunteers, and would appreciate your help in recruiting volunteers from your own constituencies for this task. If you have suggestions, please let me know.

Finally, I would like to talk to you about two separate, but related concerns I have spent the last few months wrestling with. First, is the controversy surrounding the suspension of Justin Holmes and RJ Partington. At the end of the Spring semester, and over the summer, I had a number of conversations: with Justin Holmes (May), and with a number of faculty, other students and administrators who contacted me, and who are concerned, but not directly involved, with this matter. I have not been asked to, and have not tried to, negotiate a resolution – rather, I have listened to different viewpoints and concerns, in particular with the implications for shared governance in mind. From my conversations, I can report no real conclusions, but I would like to share a few observations:

1. I would say that opinion varies widely on this case, from thinking that the students' behavior was outrageous and should not have been tolerated at all, to thinking the students are innocent victims of an administration trying to suppress freedom of expression. I cannot say what the majority of faculty and students think – I can only report the range of opinions I have heard.
2. The one thing that everybody I've spoken with seems to agree on – more or less – is that this was an unfortunate series of events that led to an unfortunate result. I have heard of nobody who is happy with what has happened.
3. As I have said before, my concern, as Presiding Officer, is with shared governance. I am particularly concerned by the suggestion of one person that we should investigate the judicial body that considered this case. I would be very uncomfortable with any movement to question the personal integrity and of the faculty and student who made up the judicial body, or the administrators involved with the case.
4. I know that opinion is sharply divided on this matter. I have no desire, or intention, to try to stifle or curtail discussion – and I believe everybody would agree with this. But I strongly urge that any discussion of this case, or any other disciplinary proceeding involving students be conducted in an atmosphere of civility, professionalism and mutual respect, as well as respect for the feelings and privacy of those involved.

All of us are here because of our commitment to learning, and I think we should be particularly mindful of this in the coming months. What does this case teach us about ourselves and our procedures? What have we done well, what have we done not so well, and what lessons can we learn from this, for the future?

Finally, I had an amazing experience back in May, which has affected me profoundly, and which I am still trying to comprehend. I thought about it all through the summer, and I'd like to share it with you now.

One day in May, I gave a lecture off campus to one of the most curious, thoughtful, attentive, and engaged audiences I've ever met with. For an hour and fifteen minutes, we carried on a dialogue that ranged from a comparison of 19th century American and Ottoman societies to the future of Iraq. The audience, 12 men, was articulate and well informed. And I noticed that not a single one of them looked once at the clock on the wall, and at the end of the session nobody jumped up saying thank god that's over. They all lined up to thank me and shake my hand. Some of you know these men – inmates of the Shawangunk Prison, where the average sentence is 25 years, where the majority of the men I met that day will die behind bars.

After my lecture I walked out of the gates of hell, and drove straight to Wiltwyck Country Club, where the School of Business was holding its annual awards ceremony, for awards like Businessperson of the year, Alumni of the Year, and Student of the Year. I congratulate Hadi and our colleagues in Business for your excellent programs and your very impressive students. Jumpei Onozuka, Student of the Year, has a 4.0 gpa, is president of the International Student Union, and active in a number of campus and community organizations. In short, Jumpei is on the way to becoming a community leader; he is a product and a reflection of the very best SUNY-New Paltz has to offer.

For months now, I've been thinking about these two groups – the worst and the best of society – so different, and yet in my mind they are inextricably bound to each other. What ties these two groups together, inmates in a prison, and the current and future leaders of our society? What binds them is education – a thirst for knowledge, a desire to learn more, to know more, and to use their knowledge. Education helps us make sense of our experience, and it is education that leads to knowledge, as knowledge leads to wisdom. We in this room have undertaken the greatest mission, and we form part of a community created for, and devoted to, the purpose of learning.

This community consists of many different groups – academic and professional faculty, students, administrators, and others, who have to work together to build this community. For if we do not work together, we can tear apart this community, but we cannot build. Let us not fail our own mission, our own purpose – to learn, to grow, to expand our knowledge and our wisdom.

This community, far from being an "ivory tower," is constantly being buffeted by social, economic and political developments beyond this campus. And so it is doubly imperative for all of us who form this community to work together, in an atmosphere of mutual respect, professionalism, collegiality, and trust. As I have said before, I believe in a campus that is open, fair, democratic and effective. I know that different people have different interpretations of what this means, and how to achieve these goals. For this reason, I believe it is vital to keep open channels of communication, and to take advantage of every opportunity to discuss and debate our views, our priorities, our visions of the future. Free speech and open debate are the heart and soul of this community. But we must also recognize that our behavior has consequences – our actions have an impact on this community that may last longer than we do. We must consider the legacy we wish to leave. We will not always agree on goals or methods, but

disagreement is not the problem, and I believe we should have no fear of disagreement, so long as we remain committed to an open, engaged, informed and continuous discourse.

I thank you all for your time, your efforts and your support of shared governance at New Paltz, and I look forward to working with you in my second term as Presiding Officer.

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Agenda: Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting

Tuesday, November 28, 2006

11:30-12:20

Lecture Center 108

1.Call to Order.

2.Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting of October 24, 2006.

3. Announcements.

- David Appelbaum. LA&S Faculty Meeting.
- Chris DeLape. BG&P Committee

4.Report of the President. Steven Poskanzer. Questions and Action Items from the Floor.

5.Reports and Action Items from Officers, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees and other Agencies of the College Faculty. Questions and action items from the floor.

- Academic Senate: Revisions to BS in Music Program.
- Promotion and Salary Increases Committee Report. Keqin Li.
- UUP. Glenn McNitt.

6. Report of the Presiding Officer of the Faculty and Professional Staff.

7. Unfinished business.

8. New business.

9. Adjournment.

Minutes: Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting

October 24, 2006

Lecture Center 108

11:30 a.m.

The meeting was brought to order by John Vanderlippe, the presiding officer. The minutes of September 26th were unanimously approved and accepted as read.

Announcements:

1- The Office of Sponsored funds is offering workshops on Developing a Research Plan, to assist faculty who want to seek and secure outside funding. Two sessions for new faculty were scheduled for late October, and one in November for faculty in their second year. Call x3282 to get on the list for future trainings.

2- The SEFA (State Employee's Federated Appeal) has had its 2007 kick-off, with this year's New Paltz theme, "Kick it up a Notch". Those who participate for the first time, increase their pledge, or refer a new participant will be entered in a special drawing for \$50 at the Would Restaurant. All participants are entered in 26 payday drawings throughout the year. The deadline to return forms you will receive in your mailbox is December 11th. Call Lorraine DuBois at x3192 with any questions.

3- The Make a Difference Day Committee urged faculty to sign up to donate a children's clothing item or school supply to the October 27th 'shower' in the Student Union, and/or volunteer at one of the organized sites or an agency of your own choice on October 28th.

Over 400 individuals from the college (students and faculty) had signed up thus far.

4- Elisa Davila wanted to publicly acknowledge Frank Trezza, Paul Kassel and the Theatre Arts department for the wonderful production of Urinetown, noting that its quality rivaled many Broadway shows. Applause.

5- Annie Roschelle acknowledged the turnout of more than 200 at the flamenco guitar performance of an alumna/composer at Friday's Alumni Weekend event.

The Report of the President: (see appendix for text)

Alumni reunion highlights included: over 500 participants; numerous comments on Urinetown; 67 attendees at the Asian Studies event – and alums from that area working on a \$100,000 fundraising project; more than 100 attendees at the First World events; and a very successful School of Business social.

Maurice Hinchey's office called the college to request that we provide a tour/visit of the Dorsky Museum to Dana Gioia of the National Endowment for the Arts on October 23rd. Our campus provided a tour which highlighted the potential role of New Paltz as a cultural and educational hub in the Hudson Valley.

be likely, but Studley will In respect of time, the President referred faculty to his written report for additional updates, and asked the faculty if they had anything they would like to discuss. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the heating problem which occurred in Old Main due to a large valve breaking. Comments were provided by Elaine Hofstetter, Giselle Hendel-Sebestyen, Richard Kelder, and Bob Michael which noted comfort levels for teaching and working, and questioned the communication update process once the Health and Safety office was called. Johanna D'Aleo spoke about the appropriate reporting site being the Heating Plant, which should be contacted at x3301 as soon as a problem is detected. The broken valve is a large, special order part which is on order, so the heating plant is removing one from the Service Building to install in Old Main in the meantime. She also noted that Old Main is a difficult building to heat due to the location of the sun and configuration of space. Glenn McNitt indicated that John Shupe returned his call quickly, and currently, while the valve is being replaced, two engineers are manually adjusting the heat in the building by hand. Deb Miller indicated she had fielded calls that came through her office and that she asked secretaries to call her today if the heat was still a problem and she had not received any calls. Some faculty said the heat was still not consistent. The President supported that perhaps we could make communications better in such situations.

Segueing into the Old Main Building renovation update, the President indicated that initially the building must be closed to do heating and air conditioning throughout. At some point later, perhaps some sections can open in stages. Construction is slated to begin Summer 2008. Chris DeLape asked if Studley Theatre would be closed for two years. Dr. Lavallee indicated that in the very beginning (the electrical and plumbing stage) that would be a separate renovation, and we will take that into consideration (shows, concerts, convocation.)

Glenn McNitt asked the President about how SUNY will be impacted by the gubernatorial election, mentioned in the written report. The President indicated that a governor will inherit a several billion dollar budget deficit, and that both candidates have referred to tax cuts. We need to prepare for that, but the strategy SUNY, and the system as a whole is proposing, is to secure as much of a base budget as possible.

Annie Roschelle asked if a change in party commonly means a change in the membership of the Board of Trustees. The President responded that officially the membership terms are staggered, with two new appointees every two years for seven year appointments. The positions of Chairperson and Vice Chair are gubernatorial appointees.

Carol Cowan asked about Banner transition and was worried about negative things she has heard from colleagues at other institutions. Was it necessary? The President indicated that yes, it was necessary, as our system and data can't continue to work on a legacy system of old programs that no longer can be serviced nor maintained. Although Banner cost a little now, the system absorbed a great amount. In addition, we were the 12th of 13 campuses in SUNY to finally make the transition. The President asked Jackie Andrews (Institutional Research and Planning) about how a campus survives the transition, from her prior experience at Delhi. Dr. Andrews indicated that staying with a legacy system is untenable, and there is the work and brainpower of many people available to provide assistance. She indicated that once we transition to Banner we will find it looks "prettier", is a lot more intuitive, there is more you can do with it, in a year we will be very happy with it, and there will be people to lead us.

Johanna D'Aleo added that we're part of a large support system, here, at SUNY, and at the SEQRA center. In an hour of training you can see how easy it is to get what you want. Elisa Davila indicated that she only used five or six fields in Banner, and wondered if she'd be able to revisit what she had done. Deb Miller responded that the brief viewing to which she was referring was a 'first pass' to see the system, but that everything we currently have in the legacy system will be transferred to Banner.

The final agenda item was the 2005-06 report by CRAL – The Committee on Research, Awards and Leaves. Submitted and presented by Gwen Havranek and Yaser Khalifa, (see attached report) questions were fielded regarding how decisions are made and how applicants can get specific feedback. Gwen Havranek indicated that in general, applications not advanced were either incomplete or

those which met basic criteria but were not exemplary. When committees show votes in favor, and abstentions, the Provost reviews and weighs the details of the discussion by the committee. Robin Cohen-La Valle asked if applicants currently receive a rating sheet with ranking and scoring by criteria, as one would receive following a grant application. Ms. Havranek indicated that the research and creative project award process includes the committee completing such a ranking/scoring template to assist them in discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Cohen-La Valle

Appendix: President's Report

Faculty and Professional Faculty Meeting
October 24, 2006

I thought I'd begin my report with a few words on admissions, as we are now moving into the heart of the student recruitment cycle. Our annual Admissions Open House will be Saturday, November 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and we once again expect a robust turnout of approximately 5,000 prospective students and their families. I hope many of you will be there to talk about your programs, because conversations with faculty generate much excitement about studying at New Paltz.

Vice President David Eaton tells me that the next month is a real crunch time for his team. In addition to Open House, admissions counselors are on road trips to high schools and receptions in recruiting hot beds such as New York City, Long Island and the Northern suburbs. And it won't be long before our first-year students head home for Thanksgiving, when they will report on their New Paltz experience to family and friends. The data show that such word-of-mouth is a powerful factor in college choices. So we're hoping to be the "Little Miss Sunshine" of campuses in students' college decisions! Again, your involvement in this process is important and appreciated.

On to facilities and construction. The Construction Fund (the "Fund"), our Facilities Management Office, the Provost, and Dean of the School of Education recently had a kick-off meeting with the architect for the Old Main Building renovation. We had hoped to phase the renovation to minimize the displacement of faculty and staff, but the experts are telling us that won't be possible. To redo mechanical systems the entire structure will have to be vacant for awhile. This means we will have to find swing space for more people. We're working on solutions and we'll share our ideas with you as they emerge. We handled just this kind of situation when we renovated van den Berg Hall, and I'm confident that we'll be able to do so once again.

At last week's meeting of SUNY Presidents the major topic was the impending shift in state government. Understandably, there is anxiousness about the post-election year budget. Several factors point to tight state funding in FY08: the new governor will inherit a large deficit; both candidates are talking about the need for **should build such** tax cuts; and the presumptive governor (that would be the candidate with the 50-point lead in the polls!) has also spoken powerfully about making a multi-billion dollar investment in the New York City public schools to resolve the CFE case. Having read these tea leaves, System Administration is trying to build up SUNY's base budget so that campuses will be in the strongest possible position if there is no additional money next year or if there are budget cuts.

On the capital side of the budget, the Fund is pushing for dollars for campus infrastructure and basic maintenance projects, as opposed to new construction or major rehabs. The thinking here is that the Fund support into its budget because in recent years the legislature has tended to add on monies for larger and more visible stand-alone campus projects.

As you all know, our highest unmet capital funding priority is the \$10 million we still need to complete the Old Main renovation. We're already pushing for such funding under every possible rubric:

(1) designating Old Main as our top priority (it was striking that the total of all SUNY campus top priorities exceeded \$1 billion while the current capital plan provides for only about \$500 million/year!);

(2) making sure Old Main is prominently included in the Fund's list of partially-funded projects that require "finishing balances;" and

(3) pushing for Old Main's inclusion in the legislature's set of economic development-linked construction projects (which is how our local legislators John Bonacic and Kevin Cahill secured an additional \$3 million for the project over the summer).

As you know, earlier this month Provost Lavallee solicited nominations for the ACE Fellowship program. As a former ACE Fellow myself, I was delighted to see a high level of local interest in participating in this very successful higher education leadership development effort. We had five strong candidates, each of whom would make a talented Fellow. I'm happy to report that New Paltz's nominee will be Professor Patricia Sullivan of the Department of Communication and Media.

October 28 is national "Make A Difference Day," and this will be the second year New Paltz has participated in this event as a campus. Our Director of Student Activities, Sue O'Driscoll, has been instrumental in organizing more than 200 students, faculty and administrators—including me and members of my Cabinet—to spend next Saturday volunteering with local social service agencies and other nonprofits. Our community service and our neighborliness are important components of our mission as a public university. If you're not already booked, I'd urge you to take a few hours of your Saturday to recognize the value of these organizations by giving them some of your time.

Finally, the "Celebrating New Paltz" Gala will be held Sunday, November 19 at Mohonk Mountain House, with proceeds going to support a scholarship endowment for local students who enroll at SUNY New Paltz. The Gala honorees this year are Kathy Cartagena from Family of New Paltz and Renee Fillette of St. John Bosco Child and Family Services. Past Galas have raised \$94,000 for this endowment, and we look forward to adding to that important total.

I'm happy to talk about these or other topics with you on the 24th. If I don't see you then, have a Happy Halloween.

* * * * *

Agenda: Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting

Tuesday, December 12, 2006

11:30-1:30

Lecture Center 102

1. Call to Order.
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting of November 28, 2006.
3. Announcements.
4. Report of the President. Steven Poskanzer. Questions and Action Items from the Floor.
5. Reports and Action Items from Officers, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees and other Agencies of the College Faculty. Questions and action items from the floor.
 - a. Academic Senate. Revisions to Faculty Handbook, Academic Integrity Policy (see attachments).
 - b. Jon Lewit, Assistant VP for Technology. The Transition to Banner.
 - c. Brian Colandrea, Campus Health and Safety Officer. Campus Fire Code.
 - d. Rose Rudnitski. Chair, GEIII Board. GE & Assessment.
6. Report of the Presiding Officer of the Faculty and Professional Staff.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business. Resolution from the SUNY-wide University Faculty Senate on "Enhancing SUNY Access to Electronic Databases."
9. Adjournment.

Minutes: Faculty & Professional Staff Meeting

November 28, 2006

Lecture Center 108

11:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order. Presiding Officer John VanderLippe brought the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
2. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of October 24th were unanimously approved and accepted as read, with two corrections: Carole Cowan asked that it be recorded in the minutes that Maria Zemantauski was the alumna/composer who gave the flamenco guitar performance (#5 under Announcements), and 2) that Carole's name be spelled correctly with an "e" at the end of her first name when she asked about the transition to Banner (under The Report of the President). Jan Hammond agreed to take the role as faculty secretary and record the minutes.
3. Announcements.
 - a. The semester's meeting for LA & S faculty will be on December 5, 2006 in room LC 108 (David Appelbaum).
 - b. The Budget, Goals, and Plans Committee wants faculty to 1) be involved in their departmental budgeting process, and 2) look on the Budget, Goals, and Plans website (<http://www.newpaltz.edu/budgetcommittee/>) for all the latest information such as the Annual Budget Survey information, The Budgeting Process, and useful terms for reviewing the campus budget called "Budget Jargon" (Christine DeLape).
4. The Report of the President (see Appendix A for full report). President Steven Poskanzer welcomed the faculty back from Thanksgiving break. He announced that the Presiding Officer has set time during the next faculty meeting (December 12th) for a

discussion of Banner. He also announced that because of the air conditioning improvements and related construction, some buildings would be closed or partially closed during the summer. He will give more information in future reports, but wanted to give the faculty advanced notice at this time.

President Poskanzer asked if there were any questions regarding his report. A question was raised on the Chancellor's allocations. Provost Lavalley responded, stating that the formula for allocations system-wide was being retooled. Because SUNY New Paltz has less purchasing power than a college in another part of the state such as Potsdam, we receive a geographic adjustment. It has been determined that the adjustment, which is approximately 15% at this time, is to be increased, as it is now recognized that we are in the Hudson Valley Region, which includes Westchester. This increase will have an impact on our revenue. The question was asked if this could have an affect on the cost of living stipends (Brian Obach). It was suggested that it could.

5. Reports and Action Items from Officers, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, and other Agencies of the College Faculty. Questions and action items from the floor.

a. Academic Senate: Revisions to the Bachelor of Science in Music Program (see Appendix B&B1 – separate documents). Carole Cowan, Dept of Music reported to the faculty that the Bachelor of Science in Music, a generalist degree, will faze out the Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy to better align with the new state mandates. It was a unanimous vote to approve the revisions as printed on the attached report and course listings from Plan of Study for the program.

b. Promotion and Salary Increases Committee Report (see Appendix C – separate PowerPoint document). The chair of the PSI committee, Keqin Li, reported on the 2005-2006 committee's work (see power point for summaries). It was calculated that 94.5% (promotions) and 89.5% (salary increases) of the faculty who were recommended by the PSI committee for consideration received them. Provost Lavalley pointed out that when calculated on how the central committee's recommendations align with administration's recommendations and approval, that the percentage is 99%. President Poskanzer commented that such a close alignment of the faculty committee with administration is to be acknowledged.

c. UUP Report. UUP President Glenn McNitt applauded the Provost and Faculty for making a proposal to add part-time faculty to the DSI process this year. McNitt asked faculty to go onto the UUP webpage (www.uupinfo.org) and then click onto SUNY New Paltz to view a summary of labor management issues that were being discussed. The faculty was reminded that it was just a summary report, not actual minutes. He also spoke of an electronic version of the newsletter. McNitt asked for help in 1) observers to the delegates' assembly in Albany in February and May (cost of trip and hotel if needed to be covered by UUP), 2) submission of articles to the newsletter, and 3) outreach to part-time faculty to ask them to join the UUP.

6. Report of the Presiding Officer of the Faculty and Professional Staff (see Appendix D). Presiding Officer John VanderLippe reviewed the four areas in his report. He stated that he would bring the Personnel Task Force information to the December 12th faculty meeting. He stated that 34 of the 22 chairs responded to a Chairs' survey on part-time faculty. He stated that working the part-time faculty into the governance structure is complex and needs further discussion. He stated that there have been more than 50 applicants for the position of Vice President of Finance and Administration. He also reported that the members of the faculty team that attended the American Association of Colleges & Universities' conference on "Faculty Work and the New Academy" are meeting to compile a report that the Presiding Officer will bring to the faculty.

Presiding Officer VanderLippe indicated that if faculty members have questions, they should feel free to contact him at any time. He also announced that there will be refreshments served at the December 12th faculty meeting. Faculty members are asked to bring specific questions on Banner to the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business. There was no unfinished business.

8. New Business. There was no new business.

9. Adjournment. Presiding Officer VanderLippe adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Hammond
11/28/06

Appendix A: President's Report

Faculty and Professional Faculty Meeting

November 28, 2006

I hope you all had a relaxing and happy Thanksgiving break, and that everyone is ready to finish the remainder of the semester in stride.

You may recall that one topic I addressed in my State of the College speech in September was the need for improved signage to help visitors find their way to campus. We will not be much of a cultural and intellectual hub if guests cannot find their way here! I am

pleased to report that, as promised, through the cooperation of the State Department of Transportation—and with thanks also due to Megan Smailer, John McEnrue and other members of our Facilities team—a number of new green “cap and gown” directional signs have been installed throughout New Paltz. For instance, when you leave the Thruway there is now a sign at the “T” intersection with Route 299 telling you to turn left to reach SUNY. Other new signs clearly designate South Putt Corners Road as an Alternate Route to campus and mark the west campus entrance off Route 208. Old signs have also been moved to more visible locations. Taken together, these signs make it much easier to find the campus from all directions. The next step in improving signage will be clearer on-campus signs to assist visitors who reach our doorstep. These signs are scheduled for installation in early spring.

Speaking of campus visitors, let me thank everyone who participated in our successful Admissions Open House earlier this month. We hosted more than 5,500 prospective students and their parents. Their conversations with faculty, staff and current students are a key step in our efforts to recruit a talented class for next fall. So far, freshman applications are up by a massive 41%(!) over last year—evidence that New Paltz continues to be a “hot” school. Lest we get cocky, however, Vice President Eaton cautions that applications are sharply up all across SUNY because (a) more students are graduating from high school (a demographic trend that will last until 2012) and (b) students are applying to more colleges. And as we all know, the acid test of our recruitment efforts is not the number of applications but whether we ultimately enroll the smart and diverse students we have chosen to admit. I’ll keep you posted as the annual cycle unfolds.

The Admissions Office has largely completed its conversion to Banner and counselors are reviewing applications using the new system. It’s great that we have this first successful office conversion under our belt, because now we head into “crunch time” for a number of other administrative units, in particular Records and Registration, Financial Aid, and Student Accounts. The go-live date for the new my.newpaltz.edu also looms for Web Services. I’m impressed with the care and attention the campus “Banner Team” has brought to this complicated set of conversions. I know these dedicated professionals will appreciate everyone’s patience and understanding as they juggle training with the new system, writing procedures and rules for that system, and practicing transactions in the new system—all while taking care of student and faculty needs in the old legacy system.

At our last meeting, some of you requested a Banner presentation specifically tailored for faculty. This could help us all understand the mechanics of the conversion and ideally familiarize ourselves with changes we’ll encounter under the new computing system. Jon Lewit of Computer Services and John VanderLippe are working together to set up such a session, and we’ll advise everyone of the date and content as soon as they are determined.

We held our fourth annual “Celebrating New Paltz” Gala fund-raiser on Sunday, November 19, at Mohonk Mountain house. We had a packed room with 330 attendees—and while we’re waiting for a final tally, this year’s proceeds will certainly push our endowment well over the \$100,000 mark. At this level, the fund covers a full-tuition, four-year scholarship for a New Paltz High graduate who attends the college. Now I hope we can begin to endow a second scholarship for another Hudson Valley student.

Chancellor Ryan presented the State University’s 2007-08 budget request to the SUNY Board last week. The good news is that System Administration has rolled as much of last year’s funding as possible into SUNY’s base budget—and on top of that is asking for another healthy increase in funding, including:

- \$35M for:
 - o MOU-endorsed campus enrollment growth (since New Paltz does not plan to grow at the undergraduate level, this funding would not affect us unless our graduate enrollments rise); and
 - o As-yet unannounced initiatives to provide access to college to a diverse population (here New Paltz would seem an attractive place to invest, in my view).
- \$10M for a BAP base geographic adjustment. This funding request is extremely important to us, for it recognizes that the cost of living and doing business in the shadow of New York City is significantly greater than elsewhere.
- An additional \$5M (beyond the current \$3M level) for “High Need” program support, including Nursing and Engineering. New Paltz successfully competed for Nursing dollars under this program last year.
- \$14M for “Achieving a Margin of Excellence.” These funds (along with almost \$20M in “Empire Innovation” dollars already in SUNY’s base) appear to be aimed primarily at Ph.D. programs at the research universities.
- \$5M for “Academic Performance” items such as teaching innovations and tracking student progress to degree.

On the capital side of the ledger, the Chancellor has asked for \$751.6 million of additional funds, covering critical maintenance needs, strategic projects identified by the campuses (we of course designated completion of funding for Old Main as our top priority), and science and technology equipment.

Finally, the Chancellor is again making a budgetary and legislative push for a rational tuition policy. I believe this makes good sense, if well-designed.

As I noted above, all of this is good news. But it must also be tinged with a measure of uncertainty, for the FY08 budget will not be constructed by current staff in the Budget Office but rather by Governor-Elect Spitzer and his budget team, who face a substantial deficit, other pressing commitments, and who have promised not to raise taxes. As those of you who have lived through past

gubernatorial transitions can attest, the year immediately after the election is often the most painful. So I'm keeping my fingers crossed even as I gear up to lobby on behalf of New Paltz and SUNY.

Finally, I want to note that our men's team hosted the first intercollegiate basketball game in the Athletic and Wellness Center on November 18. Coach Doug Pasquerella's Hawks opened their new home by crushing (or should I say undermining?) the Brooklyn College Bridges, 94-63. At long last we have a great venue for our teams. The bleachers were packed, and I got to throw up a ceremonial jump ball—which I blatantly tossed to our team's center! I'd encourage everyone to show their support for both our men's and women's teams this winter.

Appendix B:

The Department of Music at SUNY New Paltz is requesting a revision of the Bachelor of Science in Music degree, program code 12318, HEGIS code 1005.00, with a focus on contemporary music studies. The present B.S. in Music offerings all include concentration designations. This program has a dual purpose: to replace the current Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy, which is being phased out, as state mandates now require a master's degree in that area, and to offer a new option for students interested in a more general music degree.

This revised program will follow the standard Bachelor of Science guidelines of NASM. It will require most of the same core courses as the other programs. In comparing the major plans for the various programs, one can see that the first 30 credits of all of them are identical. This program will be less performance oriented and will require fewer semesters of applied study. A broader and more flexible degree, it will focus on today's contemporary music, but capitalize and interface with the offerings from each of the existing concentrations. Below are the primary reasons why this generalist degree holds potential for the music department and music students.

a. The B.S. in Music will provide an updated curriculum, including new courses relevant to today's music world. It will help students develop skills necessary to analyze, research, record, write about, and function well in today's changing music world. Some of these courses are: Masterworks of Western Music (GEIII-West), History of Rock (GEIII-Diversity), Jazz Instrumentation and Arranging, Improvisation for Every Musician, Music since 1750 (GEIII-Hum), Jazz Milestones, Basic Recording Techniques, and Writing About Music.

b. This B.S. plan could be an accelerated program and completed in three years if a student enters SUNY New Paltz with advanced placement credit and attends summer sessions. For students wishing eventually to pursue five years the new two-year Master of Science Music Therapy degree, this acceleration will allow students to complete both programs in. This degree will offer a music student the possibility of a concentrated three-year program of study.

c. This program will be of interest to students who wish to get a double degree or a music degree with a minor in another area. The new courses will be available to majors, minors, and non-majors.

d. No new faculty or additional equipment are needed for this B.S. plan. The new Master of Science in Music Therapy degree is scheduled to begin Fall 2006, pending approval in Summer 2006. We are presently offering some of the newly-approved courses, and we hope to institute this Bachelor of Science revision in Fall 2006.

Appendix C:

Appendix D: Presiding Officer's Report

Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting
November 28, 2006
Presiding Officer's Report

I have four main items to report, in terms of the work of shared governance:

1. Personnel Task Force.
 - a. In order to facilitate full discussion of the Personnel Task Force's recommendations by the Faculty and Professional Staff, I am in the process of arranging a series of meetings, involving members of the Central Personnel Committees, the Organization Committee, Department Chairs and Deans, and others, to work up specific By-Laws changes, and alterations to the Structures & Procedures document. These recommendations will be brought before the full Faculty & Professional Staff, for discussion, consideration, and adoption, revision or rejection during the Spring semester.
 - b. The Provost and I will be reporting more fully on progress at the December 12th Faculty meeting.
2. Task Force on integrating Part-Time & Contingent Faculty into Governance at New Paltz.
 - a. The Task Force, consisting of Doug Maynard, Peter Brown, Irwin Sperber, Brian Wallace and John VanderLippe, has been meeting on alternate Mondays at 3:30. In addition to the members, Yvonne Aspengren and Jeff Crane have attended, to share their insights. The Task Force welcomes new members, and I encourage you to consider joining in on this important task.
 - b. The Task Force decided to consider three levels of Part-Timer participation in shared governance: departmental, central committee, and attendance at full faculty-professional staff meetings. The Task Force developed a survey of Department Chairs, to gather information on the level and type of P/T participation in departmental activities. Twenty Chairs, from every school, returned the survey, for which the Task Force thanks them. Doug Maynard is now tabulating the responses.
 - c. The next step is for the Task Force to survey Part-Timers, regarding their perspectives on participation in shared governance. The two surveys should give a more clear picture of the complexities and possible ramifications of P/T participation in shared governance.
 - d. The Task Force should have specific recommendations for the full Faculty and Professional Staff to consider in the Spring semester.
3. Vice President for Finance and Administration Search.
 - a. The Search Committee consists of Gerald Benjamin, Sally Cross, Julie Majak, John Shupe, and myself. David Rooney is the Chair.
 - b. The committee members are considering 50+ applications, and will be meeting this week to narrow the list of potential candidates.
 - c. Faculty and Professional Staff will be asked to meet with those candidates who come to campus, and I welcome your feedback. Please meet with the candidates, and send your comments to me, or to any member of the search committee.
4. Association of American Colleges & Universities, Conference on "Faculty Work in the New Academy."
 - a. This conference was held in Chicago, November 9-11. When I learned of this conference, last summer, I asked Provost Lavallee if we could send a team. He agreed, and asked me to assemble a team. The team members were Richard Kelder, director of the TLC, and member of the Executive Committee of the New Paltz UUP chapter, Jan Hammond, Education and member of the RSCA Board, Anat Shiftan, F&PA, and Yaser Khalifa, S&E and member of the RSCA Board, and myself, LA&S and Faculty Governance.
 - b. The conference was organized around a number of themes, including workload, faculty-administration communication, mentoring, pedagogy and student research, and the changing nature of academia. The team members split up to cover as many panels as possible, and we will be producing a report for the full Faculty and Professional Staff as soon as we're able to meet and compare notes.

These are four particular items that I have been occupied with, as the Presiding Officer. In addition, the central committees are hard at work on a number of issues, and they will be reporting over the course of the next several months.

I thank you for your time and engagement with shared governance, and I welcome your questions, concerns and feedback on how I can better serve your needs and how we can work together to strengthen shared governance at New Paltz.