

November 5, 2003 Minutes of the General Faculty Committee Meeting

Members In attendance: Bruce Wessels, Thomas Bauman, David Buchholz, Dennis Chong, Sudhakar Deshmukh, Abraham Haddad, Hamlin Jennings, Eva Redei, Michael Stein,

1. Approval of minutes of May 03 and October 03:

May03 and Oct. 03 minutes are approved.

2. GFC At-Large Members:

Bruce Wessels welcomed newly elected at-large GFC members, Abe Haddad, Tom Bauman, and Sudhakar Deshmukh, as well as new WCAS members, David Buchholz, Dennis Chong and Michael Stein.

3. Themes for Trustees/GFC Meeting – December 6th :

The joint GFC/University Trustees meeting will be held Dec. 6, 9:00 am at Norris Center. The meeting provides an opportunity for the GFC and the Trustees to discuss university issues of mutual interest. The top University administrators also attend. Topics of discussion are provided by the GFC.

A discussion of potential topics ensued.

GFC members voted for the top three choices from the following topics:

1. NU and the Community: Bridging the gap between NU and the City of Evanston and the state.
2. Research Enterprise: Opportunities and Responsibilities
3. Education in the 21st Century: Methods of teaching, technology, type of NU student
4. Ethics and Education
5. Equality and the University: Affirmative action, , increasing faculty diversity

Topic	Number of Votes
NU and the Community	7
Research Enterprise	5
Education in the 21 st Century	3
Ethics and Education	5
Equality and the University	3

Results were as follows:

1. NU and the Community (7 votes)
2. Ethics and Education (5 Votes)
3. Research Enterprise (5votes)

These three topics will be forwarded to VP M. McCoy.

4. Review of October 7th Meeting with Administration:

GFC administrative committee meets with administration every quarter at Rebecca Crown to discuss issues. Topics for the upcoming Senate meeting were discussed. Topics to be discussed include: the NU budget, research, new University initiatives, inter-collegiate athletics and community relations. The Senate agenda will be posted on the GFC web site in November.

5. Upcoming Senate Meeting on Thursday 11/20/03 at 3:30-5:00pm in Hardin Hall:

Bruce Wessels requested all GFC members to attend this meeting. It is crucial that all GFC members are there to represent the GFC body. The meeting offers an excellent opportunity for the GFC and other Senate members to have an open dialogue with the administration.

6. Upcoming Meeting with Administration budget committee (December 15, 2003):

The GFC leadership will be meeting with the University administration budget committee to discuss University budget priorities. Each GFC standing sub-committee was asked to come up with a proposed budget to be forwarded to the Administration budget committee. Bruce Wessels and Debbie Lucas will take the lead in developing an overall budget and the presentation. The proposed budget items will be discussed at the Dec. 3 GFC meeting.

7. Benefits sub-committee chair:

Abraham Haddad will serve as the Benefits sub-committee chair. All GFC members voted unanimously in favor of this new appointment.

8. Old Business

a. CIC/COIA Framework Document Approval

The CIC is a provost's sponsored committee involving the Big Ten Universities and U. of Chicago. Senate leaders meet yearly to discuss issues of common interest. The CIC Senate leaders previously had promoted intercollegiate athletics reform. Bruce Wessels attended an AAUP sponsored meeting in Indianapolis at NCAA headquarters to discuss intercollegiate reform. Other universities from the six BCS leagues were also there. A document entitled the

Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) framework was discussed at Indianapolis and subsequently given to the GFC for approval.

The GFC voted unanimously in favor of endorsing the COIA framework document. This vote outcome will be communicated to the COIA steering committee. .

b. A brief discussion of methods of communicating GFC activities was undertaken. The Observer editor agreed to report GFC and Senate activities.

9. New Business

a. Shared governance at Northwestern was discussed in light of the University of Southern California CHEPA 2003 report. There was some discussion of University standing committees and perceived lack of wide spread participation of faculty. The appointment process was discussed. Another issue voiced was the selection, evaluation and retention of administrators. Administrative searches are kept closed, with only search committee members meeting with candidates. Pros and cons of open searches were discussed.

Formation of ad hoc committee to study shared governance issues was proposed. Discussion centered on whether or not a separate committee or the GFC Budget and Policy committee should take the lead.

b. The Senate leadership of the University Minnesota asked CIC senate leaders to discuss the Patriot's act at their respective institutions. The U. Minnesota Senate document was distributed to GFC members for review. This document, U. Minnesota Senate Resolution, highlights the limits on academic freedom resulting from restrictions the federal government has imposed on the publication of research results through the creation of classifications such as "sensitive but unclassified," "controlled but unclassified" and "sensitive homeland security information."

The resolution was referred to the GFC Research Committee. It was requested that Eva Redei, the sub-committee chair, discuss it with research administration.

c. Bruce Wessels requested all members to select a GFC sub-committee by next week. Michael Stein agreed to serve on the Educational Affairs Committee. David Buchholz has agreed to serve

on the Research Affairs sub-committee; Sudhakar Deshmukh has agreed to serve on the Budget and Policy Committee.

d. All sub-committee chairs are in charge of updating the web with current information. A paragraph should be written summarizing current activities and submitted to Diana Snyder by Dec. 3.

e. The next GFC meeting will be held on December 3, 2003 at 7:00 pm in Scott Hall room 201 (the Ripton Room)

Minutes Submitted by:

Diana Snyder