

GENERAL FACULTY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

May 06, 2009

Members in attendance: Chair Laurie Zoloth, Paul Arntson, Francesca Bordogna, Jian Cao, Jack Doppelt, John Elson, Anupam Garg, Donna Jurdy, Andrew Koppelman, Seth Lichter, Ferdinando Mussa-Ivaldi, William Ocasio, Aryeh Routtenberg, Babette Sanders, Helen Thompson

Introduction: GFC Chair Laurie Zoloth called the meeting to order at 7:14pm.

1. Approval of Minutes of April 1, 2009 meeting

The minutes of the April 1, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously with no changes and will be posted to the General Faculty Committee website.

2. Consideration of University Senate meeting and next task

Laurie Zoloth thanked everyone who attended the University Senate Meeting and gave General Faculty members an opportunity to express their personal views and opinions of the meeting itself, the perceived outcome and how to move forward.

Attendance at the Senate Meeting was much higher than in previous years and final numbers consisted of 95 people on the Evanston Campus and 20 people on the Chicago Campus. General Faculty members agreed that video conferencing between campuses should continue and the meeting rooms were ideal locations (Swift Hall 107 and Wieboldt 421). It was also determined and strongly stated that future Senate Meeting agendas and time slots for specific discussion items should be monitored closely and adequate time needs be allotted to critical faculty issues.

General Faculty Committee members proposed and discussed in detail several ideas for advancing the faculty governance initiative. As a first step, the GFC will use the summertime to meet with the incoming NU president and discuss the future of faculty governance and the establishment of shared governance at Northwestern.

3. Discussion of new Chair for Chair-elect position

Laurie Zoloth encouraged all first year General Faculty Committee members to run for the chair-elect position.

4. Ver Steeg Lounge

The Library has expressed its willingness to share the Ver Steeg Lounge with the GFC and the NU faculty body to help fulfill the goal of establishing a Faculty Club. Unfortunately, because the agreement comes with many restrictions and limited access, the General Faculty Committee has decided not to pursue this arrangement.

In Conclusion:

- The June 3rd GFC Meeting will be held at “*Quince at the Homestead*” in Evanston at 6:00pm.
- John Elson will send, via email, to the General Faculty Committee the final version of the Ombudsman letter for further review.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

Minutes Submitted by: Diana Snyder

Minutes Approved by: General Faculty Committee members