Newark Faculty Council
Minutes
Meeting of Monday, February 19, 2001 - 11:30 a.m.
Provost’s Conference Room - CLJ - 5th floor


I Chair’s Report

Nabil Adam reported on the following items:
- Presidential Faculty Advisory Committee - John Randall, Nabil Adam and Provost Samuels attended this meeting with President Lawrence. The President reported on the state budget, plans for expanding university enrolment, the need for additional PTL’s/TA’s, and how contributions to the university may be earmarked.

II Provost’s Report

Dr. Samuels reviewed the following matters:
- Campus Events:
  - Marion Thompson Wright Lecture Series - this past weekend approximately 300 people attended a lecture organized by Prof. Clem Price.
  - Diversity Celebration - January 29th - included an afternoon of activities for students, and a gala dinner for about 200 guests. NJ Secretary of State, DeForest B. Soaries, was the keynote speaker. Senator Jon Corzine also spoke. The event was inspired by US News & World Report’s rating of the Rutgers-Newark as “Most Diverse National University Campus” for the fourth consecutive year. The event received good press coverage.
- City of Newark - The State will provide funding for new school construction. Newark will receive about 1.6 billion dollars.
- International Center for Public Health - building is progressing well on Warren Street, which will draw an additional 200 scientists to Newark.
- Downtown Arena - Should be decided upon soon.
- New Newark Foundation - currently interviewing developers for the few blocks around the Halsey street area.
- Student Housing (graduate) - Private developers are working on plans for housing near campus.
- Budget - Governor Whitman’s proposals were promising, however, they were only recommendations to be reviewed by the new Governor and legislature. If implemented, the university will receive a 2.5% increase in the base budget or a little more than $8 million. An additional salary pool of about $6-7 million, renewed ELF funding, and earmarked funds for
science buildings in New Brunswick are also included. A new New Jersey Fund for Technology will specifically target technological projects and reflects the direction the State is taking in funding preferences. Other packages include $10 million for business partnerships, $5 million matching funds for biomedical research, a $20 million package for Excellence in High Technology Workforce Initiatives, and funds for teacher preparation programs. The TAG program will receive an increase and EOF funding will be maintained at the current level.

- HECIP program - $40 million is earmarked to repair, renovate and improve facilities. The Newark campus has about 80 projects planned.
- ELF and SROA programs are also moving ahead.
- Enrolment Increases - Reflecting the rise in high school graduates in the State, the university is considering expanding enrolment by about 10% or 4,000 students (undergraduate). The Newark campus is more able to absorb an increase and will probably plan for about 2,000 additional students over period of a few years. Increased enrolments will mean proportionately increased university funding, but also a need for additional services and facilities. Dr. Samuels stressed the importance of more aggressive application for external grants.

III Committee on Expansion

Virginia Tiger will chair this committee, to include Nabil Adam, Patricia Hurley, John Randall, Wen-Hua Ren, and Travis Pratt. They will explore and make recommendations on areas affected by the projected enrolment increases. The committee will meet on Thursday, March 1 from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in the Provost’s small conference room 590B.

Discussion continued on the need for additional advertising to attract students, and the desire to keep admissions standards near the existing level.

IV Additional Business

Professor Znayenko requested statistics be provided regarding staffing of parking lot facilities on campus. Mr. Vincenti will provide this information.

Professor Ren advised about Dana Library’s Internet workshops. Departments may request workshops on site as well. The Library’s Scholarly Journal Committee may need advice/support from the Faculty Council regarding on-line journals.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Faculty Council meeting is Monday May 7, 2001 at 11:30 a.m. in the Provost’s Conference Room - 5th Floor, CLJ.