I. Chair’s Report - John Randall reported on the following matters:

A. Newly elected officers for 2002-2003 are: Vice-Chair, Diana Sclar, Law School (she will become Chair next year); Secretary, Kathe Callahan, Public Administration; and Members, Brian Ferguson of Sociology/Anthropology, Wen-Hua Ren of Dana Library, and Nabil Adam of MSIS/CIMIC.

B. Separate PRC’s for three campuses:
   – The NFC report summarizes the pros and cons of this proposal. Questions were raised about the composition of a Newark PRC - would it be a combination of representatives from all campuses or just Newark? It was noted that this proposal is being considered in the context of devolution, not a merger. John Randall will survey various constituents and report back to the group. In addition to reducing the time the provost spends reviewing cases from other campuses (Newark has approx. 20, New Brunswick has about 100, Camden about 10), Newark has schools which are not represented in New Brunswick (Business, Law, Nursing).
   – One possible approach is to retain a university-wide body for tenure and PII’s, but a campus committee for PI cases. It was agreed that standards must be kept at the same high level for all campuses. In the event of a merger, Rutgers’ higher standards would need to prevail. If a Newark PRC were already in place, there would be faculty with PRC experience to draw upon. Camden is not necessarily in favor of having its own PRC.
   – A motion for “Newark to investigate the reorganization of the PRC in the context of devolution” was seconded and unanimously passed. John Randall will form a subcommittee of elected officers and other interested members, and will make a recommendation for NFC action no later than the next NFC meeting.

C. Administrative Computing Initiatives
   – A motion to put student photos on rosters was passed with all but one favorable vote. Photos are currently available, and some thought that it might be better to post them on departmental websites. A motion to support the use of paperless/electronic grade submissions passed unanimously.

II. Provost’s Report - Dr. Diner reported on the following issues:

A. A Star-Ledger article reported on the Law School’s affirmative action initiatives.
A. Budget - President McCormick is conducting a vigorous campaign for a roll-back of cuts, and students have been demonstrating. Three matters will control the outcome: 1) size of tuition increase approved by the BoG, 2) whether the State
will impose a tuition cap, and 3) whether there will be negotiated pay raises.

B. Restructuring: Governor McGreevy has appointed a Review, Planning and Implementation Committee which in turn created sub-committees for the three locations. Dr. Diner is co-chair of the Newark-based committee with Joel Bloom of NJIT and Cecile Feldman of UMDNJ. Among the other members of the Newark committee will be Charles Russell (English), Barbara Stern (RBS), Ian Creese (CMBN) and Dean Stuart Deutsch (Law). There will also be an Academic Issues committee to include all the deans. The governor will not introduce legislation until later in the year, probably after elections. Budget cuts have caused some skepticism about the merger. The campus should still be planning for the possibility of a merger, which makes sense for the long term.

D. Devolution is moving along quickly. Admissions, Financial Aid, and the Registrar will report to the Newark Campus as of July 1, through Associate Provost, Gary Roth. Student Health Services and the Learning Resource Center will also be transferred soon. There are still questions about Admissions, such as how we will divide the marketing and promotion aspects. The Provost will probably have signatory authority on grants and purchasing limits may be raised. Still being discussed are computing staff and student fees. Budgetary transparency has provided much needed data on many items, such as research overhead on grants.

E. Spring Enrolment was at an all-time high of 10,278 (Fall was 10,360). New admits will be kept at the same level next year.

F. Emergency Preparedness on campus is being evaluated.

G. Reorganization of Old Queens: Karen Kavanaugh starts this week. The search for Chief Academic Officer and Chief Budget Officer is underway. Asela Laguna-Diaz is a member of the search committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next Newark Faculty Council meeting will be on Monday, May 12, 2003 at 11:30 a.m., in the Provost Conference Room, 5th floor of the Center for Law & Justice.