

Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 25, 2007  
Knight Campus

Executive Committee President, Marjorie Norquist called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm

Attendees: John Ribezzo, Karen J. Allen, Renée Anderson, Donald Paquet, Thomas J. Whitfield, Donald Fontes, Steve Forleo, David Kaplan, Joseph Garvey, Kate Dunnigan, Tom Keefe, Dave Critchett, Jean Billerbeck, Richard J. Cardin, Donna J. Medas Patton, Lynda Codea, Kim Crealey Rouillier, Tony Rashid, Christine Fox and Deb Lilli.

Video conference room attendees: Richard Tessier, Providence  
Bob Melucci and Ramona Skelly, Lincoln  
Bill Johnson, Newport.

Before attending to business items, a motion was passed allowing for today's meeting to be videotaped and posted online at a later date.

Karen Allen reported that only five faculty members have responded to her call for a nominating elections committee. Also, 11 faculty members have responded to her call for a hiring committee for the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

The deadline is set for 10/26. Karen urged the committee to encourage other faculty members who would like to run for these committees to contact her by Friday.

**Agenda item #1:** Joe Garvey's report on the status of contract negotiations.

Overall, Joe said the negotiations were going well and a discussion followed.

- the faculty should be more fully informed about negotiations (Forleo, Fontes and Billerbeck)
- term limits for chairs and faculty regular loads (Billerbeck)
- it takes department chairs at least 3 years to truly understand the complexities of the job because they lack historical perspective (Garvey)
- adequate salary funding in face of the shrinking budget (Norquist and Garvey)
- the handling of the raise for the junior faculty in the Department of Nursing (Forleo and Norquist)
- entire faculty needs to react to salary compression across the board and faculty need to be willing to stand up and walk for weeks without pay (Garvey)
- junior and senior faculty cooperation (Cardin)

No motions were passed; however, the President agreed to inform the faculty about the future dates and times of Negotiating Committee meetings.

**Agenda item #2** Parking Lot

Steve Forleo reported that he met with Bob Shea, VP for Business Affairs. Shea said the “armed” lot was a response to 911, VTech, and numerous faculty complaints about limited parking spaces. Steve told Shea that in years past they had an “arm” in the lot, but it was not connected to a database.

Discussion followed:

- Lilli requested that the committee put in a grievance as a precedent because the faculty association should be notified before the administration makes such major decisions.
- Wooley asked Steve if he wanted written documentation saying that they will not use this information for faculty evaluations. Lilli and Forleo both said no because it should not be used period.
- cost of the Honeywell system was approximately \$400,000.
- concern about the new courthouse going up near the Providence campus and need for additional security(Melucci)
- utilizing the former gate which had no tracking device (Fox)
- it has been confirmed that President Di Pasquale knew about Honeywell system this summer

**Motion to file this grievance passes.**

Joe Garvey will file the grievance.

### **Agenda item #3** Changing Union Representation

Critchett’s motion to have the Executive Committee president appoint faculty members to a subcommittee to poll faculty about satisfaction or dissatisfaction with NEARI and to research alternative unions was discussed and later amended.

Discussion of the proposed motion followed.

- 17 years since last union evaluation (Cardin)
- faculty message board (Fonts)
- the pros and cons of NEARI should be discussed with faculty so they will be better informed when surveyed (Garvey, Critchett)

The amended motion: The executive committee favors the creation of a subcommittee of 5 members, appointed by the Executive Committee president, to poll the faculty for its opinions about union representation.

**The amended motion passed unanimously.**

- Critchett requested Norquist place him on this subcommittee and she agreed.

- Norquist invited any and all interested faculty who want to be on this subcommittee to email her.

**Agenda item #4** The source of money for nursing salary increases

Norquist asked Bob Shea where the money for the pay increases came from and provided his response. Shea stated the money came from positions they had budgeted for but did not fill.

Critchett moved for a grievance. It should be grieved because this response is inadequate based upon contractual language requiring the sharing of information.

Joe moved for a discussion.

- we shouldn't grieve (Garvey)
- we should not be lax and should utilize our contract more than we have in the past. (Lilli)
- exact language in the contract should be looked into and whether "share" is what it says (Lilli)
- we need to call them on this and let them know we are not filing frivolous grievances (Wooley)
- **Motion to file this grievance passes.** Joe Garvey will file the grievance.

**Agenda item #5** Motion for more faculty involvement in search committee for Dean of Arts and Sciences.

Discussion of Kate Dunnigan's letter stating that department chairs from each division be represented on the search committee because they work more closely with deans.

- All chairs (Whitfield)
- Some chairs (Billerbeck)

Motion amended. Two faculty and two department chairs should be on the search committee for the Dean of Arts and Sciences.

Lilli amended the prior amendment to the motion, by moving to have 3 faculty members and 3 chairs on the search committee.

- this make the committee too large (Garvey)

Critchett pointed out only 14 members remained for the discussion and there was no longer a quorum

Critchett motioned to move agenda item 5 to the next meeting and this was seconded. The vote to adjourn the meeting was then taken. The meeting was then adjourned.