

Yeshiva University Manhattan Campuses Faculty Council
Beren Campus, Gottesman Boardroom
March 16, 2012
Minutes

Present: Paris Baldacci, Joan Beder, Gabriel Cwilich, Carl Feit, Jeffrey Freedman, Anatoly Frenkel, Paula Geyh, Malvina Halberstam, Jesse Itzkowitz, Joanne Jacobson, Melanie Leslie, Nora Nachumi, Aliza Rotenstein, Linda Shires, Louise Silverstein, William Stenhouse, Lynn Wishart, Marnin Young

On behalf of the ad hoc By-laws Committee, W. Stenhouse opened discussion on the revised draft of the By-laws that was circulated via email on March 14.

Moved by J. Itzkowitz and seconded that the By-laws state that the ratio of faculty representation on the Faculty Council be 1:15 or as close to 1:15 as possible rounded up or down to the nearest full number. Motion carried.

Moved by C. Feit and seconded that the by-laws state that proportional faculty representation on the Faculty Council be revisited every three years to account for changes in faculty composition. Motion carried.

Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded that the minutes of Faculty Council meetings record action items, primary points of the discussions without attribution, and conclusions. Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded that the By-laws be amended to promote open conversation within the Faculty Council and that all proceedings of the Faculty Council and Executive Committee be confidential with the exception of the minutes, thus requiring a vote to make public other parts of the proceedings. Motions carried.

Moved by M. Halberstam and seconded that a report be prepared for the Faculty Council based on a review of bodies similar to the Faculty Council at other universities to see if anything has been omitted from the By-laws and to learn the general extent of support given by university administrations. Motion failed.

Seven goals, proposed by the Executive Committee, for the Faculty Council were discussed.

Moved by A. Frankel and seconded that members of the Faculty Council ad hoc Budget Committee review a draft of the University budget to enable the Faculty Council to make recommendations. Motion carried.

Moved by J. Beder and seconded that the Speaker and Vice Speaker of the Faculty Council petition the Provost for their participation in the Deans' Council. Motion carried.

Moved by J. Jacobson and seconded that the Faculty Council be represented at meetings of the University Benefits Committee and that the Faculty Council be informed and be given the opportunity to comment before changes are made to faculty benefits. Motion carried.

Moved by C. Feit and seconded that the Faculty Council will propose a policy on faculty leaves, including but not limited to family leave, research leave, and senior faculty retirement planning. Motion carried.

The ad hoc Faculty Handbook Committee reported that editorial work on the Faculty Handbook is nearly complete. The Faculty Handbook will be circulated via email to the Faculty Council within the next few weeks for approval.

Moved by L. Shires and seconded that the Faculty Council collect and review tenure and promotion criteria from each academic unit within the University and create a written document to serve as a reference guide. Motion carried.

Moved by W. Stenhouse and seconded to strike clause 5.8 in the current draft of the By-laws. Motion carried.

Moved by J. Jacobson and seconded to use web pages to communicate the membership, minutes, and activities of the Faculty Council. Motion carried.

Moved by M. Leslie and seconded to give preliminary approval to the draft By-laws, subject to final approval of the draft to be circulated after the By-laws Committee updates the existing text with changes discussed in this meeting. Motion carried.

J. Itzkowitz will chair the Faculty Council ad hoc Budget Committee. A. Rotenstein joins B. Arsenio, C. Feit, and L. Silverstein on the committee.

Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded to extend the length of the meeting in progress by 15 minutes. Motion carried.

At the request of the Executive Committee, the ad hoc Faculty Resources Committee was collapsed into the ad hoc Faculty Benefits and Compensation Committee to become Faculty Benefits, Compensation, and Resources. P. Geyh chairs this committee; members include P. Baldacci, G. Cwilich, A. Frenkel and L. Wishart. J. Jacobson will participate in the committee's preparation of a faculty retirement plan.

The Executive Committee will request a meeting with the Provost to discuss membership on the Deans' Council, creation of a Faculty Council web page to facilitate communication of its activities, participation on the University Benefits Committee, and input into the University's budget planning process.

Moved by J. Jacobson and seconded that Vice President Gower be invited to give a report about the financial status of the University, including reasons for the current

deficit and existing and anticipated strategies for dealing with it, at the next Faculty Council meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded that anyone appointed to the Faculty Council request that their faculty body elect a representative to take a position on the Faculty Council in fall 2012. Motion carried.

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled to be held on either Friday, April 27 or Friday, May 4 at the Cardozo School of Law.

Moved by C. Feit and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Minutes submitted by Lynn Wishart, Secretary