



**Professional Employees Council
Binghamton University
<http://pec.binghamton.edu/>**

MINUTES

**March 9, 2005 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
AD-148, Couper Administration Building**

Present: C. Altsmansberger, R. Barron, J. Dorak, G. Glover, G. Guido, D. Hawkins, C. Kester, L. Klein, S. Lewis, N. Mabe, L. MacKenzie, D. Martin, D. Stone, J. Walker, D. Wood, I. Fang WU, J. Yaples, V. Young

Excused: E. Abate, Gilroy, B. Jenson, M. Lennox, R. Mess, T. Robinson, S. Santobuono

Absent: C. Fuller

Guest: J. Price, S. Whallon

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The minutes for February 23, 2005 were approved
2. Announcements:
 - a. Pre-Retirement Planning Program – there are multiple sessions scheduled – April 4, 11, 18, 25. Contact Alison Gierlach by email at agierlac@binghamton.edu. Professionals are expected to attend all four sessions if they sign up for this program.
 - b. Advocacy Day – April 19th: 2 buses have been chartered for campus representative to go to Albany. Professionals are reminded that they can still volunteer for this event. Volunteers may also be posted at a table to promote the campus. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Mary Lou Sollis at msollis@binghamton.edu.
 - c. Upcoming Presentations: president DeFleur, March 23rd, J. Meador, Library Services, April 20th, Spring constituency Meeting, April 6th at Noon, PSPC room C.
 - d. The \$400,000 sign that was going to be put near the Event's Center has been put on hold permanently. It is believed that the University has cancelled the project.
3. Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Communications – None
 - b. Rules – Professionals are reminded that they may nominate members to run for council by visiting the PEC website. The rules committee will be meeting next week to confirm nominees. In addition, a review has been conducted of the PEC member numbers and the new numbers were approved. There will be still 26 members on the council, but some of the positions have been re-slotted.
 - c. Professional Development – Recently hosted a Brown Bag Session. Fran Goldman, the guest speaker, presented her ideas on Supervisory Skills. There will be an upcoming Brown Bag Session with Tom Kowalik scheduled on March 29th in PSPC room C.
 - d. Distinguished Service Award – Spring Constituency Meeting scheduled for April 6th at noon in PSPC Room C.
4. Old business

- a. Mick Hizny of the Computer Center will not be able to do a presentation at this time.
- b. Professional Development Funds – the committee will meet on March 29th at 9am in AD 606. Bonnie Jensen is chair.
- c. The Admissions Presentation has been scheduled for May 18th.
- d. PEC will meet with President DeFleur on March 23rd – please forward any questions you may have for the President to Dave Stone.
- e. Dave Stone has been selected to serve on the Search committee for the Vice President of Administration position. Tom Kelly will be the chair of this committee. The search committee will meet on March 17th at 3:30pm in AD 148. At this point, it was believed that only internal candidates were being considered for this position.

5. New Business

- a. Nominations for PEC Officers are now being accepted. PEC members have been asked to consider running for a position or nominate someone for the 2005-2006 slate.

6. Other

- a. Council hosted EH&S Hazardous Materials department. Guest Speaker Stacey Whallon discussed what types of hazardous materials can be found on campus and what buildings contain hazardous materials. Other topics included how and where these materials were kept on campus and where they were moved to after their use (Ohio). Main examples of buildings on campus of where hazardous materials have been found/stored/used were the library (PCB's were found there and were removed) and the Science Buildings. Other buildings on campus were also noted. If there are any problems or questions, campus professionals may visit the EH&S website at ehs.binghamton.edu or call Environmental Health and Safety directly.
- b. Council discussed if we should open our meetings to other members on campus. Council decided that its meetings are open to everyone, however the constituency and guests who wish to attend the meeting should contact the chair prior to the meeting as there may have to other arrangements made (e.g. requiring a larger room).
- c. Amendment: Minutes from Feb. 27th – 4a. #7: Add “Admissions” before “Communications”.

John Price presented on the subject of asbestos and asbestos removal and containment.

John discussed where asbestos comes from and where it can be found on campus and even in one's home. Handouts were provided. Some places on campus included floor tile, roofing and construction materials, laboratory countertops, wiring and insulation in underground heating system.

In 1984 a survey of SUNY campuses determined that BU had the most asbestos and \$8 million have been put into asbestos abatement projects. This summer a large project is scheduled in the ground floor of the library.

EPA and the Dept of Labor closely monitor hired contractors, and the university maintains tight control to assure proper procedures are followed for removal.

Questions included specific work areas of some council members and John (and Dave) invited emails from anyone who has concerns about their areas. He specifically mentioned that abatement is commonly done at times of renovation and that containment is acceptable – i.e., keeping the asbestos from coming into contact with people or becoming airborne. He stated that there are two inspections a year to assure that asbestos on campus is contained.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 23, 2005 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm AD 148 Couper Administration Bldg.

