



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

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES COUNCIL

Date – February 22, 2006

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

Present: E. Abate, C. Altsmansberger, D. Cavallucci, J. Dorak, S. Dvorsky, D. Felix, J. Gates, J. Goldman, M. Nostrom, K. Schnauber, D. Stone, J. Walker, D. Wood, J. Yaples, V. Young.

Excused: E. Chidester, L. Gilroy, D. Guido, D. Hawkins, B. Jenson, D. Martin, K. Riley, S. Santobuono, Wu, I. Fang.

Absent: J. Kroll.

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 25 meeting were approved with corrections to the attendance list. The minutes of the February 8 meeting were approved with the correction that Dave Stone had withdrawn from the Disbursement Committee.

II. Announcements

-Sign-ups for the Relay for Live, March 24 & 25, were passed around. PEC members were encouraged to find constituents to sign up too.

-Debbie Slattery has replaced Angie Wowk as Administration, At-Large Representative.

-Thanks were extended to those who had coordinated the Mentee/Mentor Event. All agreed this went well.

-Donna Lupardo is speaking on Thursday, February 23, UU-133, on the NYS budget and Higher Education.

III. Guest Speaker – Provost Mary Ann Swain

-Provost Swain was introduced and reviewed the issues PEC had presented to her. She noted that the Downtown Center plans are now available and that bids are under budget. This building will include a combination of spaces that provide flexibility for various uses. The building will take advantage of its location near the river in its design and based upon the features/needs of ‘urban campus’ buildings. Appropriate security/safety concerns are being addressed in the design features. It was pointed out that the first floor tiles will reflect the archeological finds at the site. The building is expected to be open in the Fall 2007.

-She then talked about PEC concerns regarding Professional Development. She noted that this is an important issue and she has a committee reviewing how to encourage this.

-She noted that the PEC is valuable to the university and questioned what concerns PEC has regarding supervisors not supporting involvement. Council members explained that in the past some nominees were concerned that they wished to be involved but that their supervisors were willing to allow that. She indicated she would raise this with Provost’s Council and note her support for involvement. If there are specific concerns, she indicated willingness to explore.

-A question was raised about her upcoming trip to China. Provost Swain replied that SUNY, through the Levin Institute, is exploring new international programs with China and she is the president’s

designee for this trip. A number of Chinese university's are being contacted to discuss options for various types of exchange programs.

-Provost Swain was thanked by Council for her presentation.

IV. Standing Committee Reports

a. Communications – Liz Abate, Chair

Liz reported that Mike Nostrum has agreed to co-chair this committee.

b. Rules – Daryl Wood, Chair

The election timeline is being prepared and will be distributed soon.

c. Professional Development – David Stone, Chair

-The success of the Mentee/Mentor lunch was reviewed with Council members. The university will be providing lists of new employees on a quarterly basis. A form is being created for new employees to self-identify their interest in being mentored. This will be provided to them upon employment.

-Brown bag topics being worked on. Time Management will be held in March and Professional Development in May.

-The money dispersal guidelines for Professional Development funds were reviewed and approved with clarification that previously completed activities will not be funded.

-It was agreed that the Disbursement Committee will choose it's own chair.

d. Professional Recognition, Lisa Gilroy, Chair

-The date for submission of nominations is April 14 and is being disseminated.

V. New Business

Rodger Summers will attend our next meeting.

VI. Old Business

No Old Business.

VII. Other

It was agreed that the May 17, 2006 Council meeting will be cancelled because it during the week of Commencement.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 8th at 3:00pm in AD 148.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Professional employees are encouraged to provide PEC with responses to items discussed and reported in the minutes. Professionals are also encouraged to suggest agenda items and to attend PEC meetings. Please direct suggestions or your request to be added to the PEC listserv to pec@binghamton.edu.