

74th Meeting of the Faculty of SAS
May 5, 2009
Voorhees Hall Room 105
College Avenue Campus

Present:

Last Name	First Name	Department
Ahearn,	Laura	Anthropology
Allendar,	Eric	Computer Science
Baldi,	Andrea	Italian
Bathory,	Dennis	Political Science
Beals,	Michael	Mathematics
Bensman	David	SMLR
Boikess,	Robert	Chemistry
Bojanowska,	Edyta	German/Russian
Brennan,	Corey	Classics
Brill,	Gary	Psychology
Bumby,	Richard	Mathematics
Carr,	Michael	SAS Dean\EPS
Chapman,	Gretchen	Psychology
Chaudhuri,	Basanta	Economics
Cherlin	Gregory	Mathematics
Clemens,	Paul G. E.	History
Cotter,	Martha	Chemistry
Dayal,	Veneeta	Linguistics
Diamond,	Elin	Comp. Lit. and English
Eaton,	Andrienne	SMLR
Fine,	Janice	SMLR
Flint,	Kate	English
Gambarota,	Paola	Italian
Golden,	Peter	CMES
Goodman,	Roe	Mathematics
Hamilton,	Len	Psychology
Hansell,	Steve	Sociology
Haviland,	Martha	DLS
Hawkesworth,	Mary	Women's and Gender Studies
Horwitz,	Allan	SAS Deans/Sociology
Idler,	Ellen	Sociology
Jiang,	Tao	Religion
Klein,	Peter	SAS Deans/Philosophy
Krenos,	John	Chemistry
Lawrence,	Susan E.	Political Science
Leath,	Paul	Physics and Astronomy
Levine,	Michael	German/Russian
Liu,	Xun	History
Mascia-Lees,	Fran	Anthropology

Masschaele,	Jim	History
Matsuda,	Matt	History
McCrisson,	Trip	Philosophy
Naqvi,	Fatima	German/Russian
Obayashi,	Hiroshi	Religion
Phillips,	Julie	Sociology
Pirog,	Gerald	German/Russian
Rabii,	Jamshid	Cell Biology and Neuroscience
Reed,	James	History
Rendsburg,	Gary	Jewish Studies
Rennie,	Nicholas	German/Russian
Richter,	Gerald	Computer Science
Roos,	Patricia	Sociology
Rubin,	Jeff	Economics
Scanlon,	Larry	English
Schroeder,	Rick	Geography
Schurman,	Sue	SMLR
Schwarzchild,	Roger	Linguistics
Sheflin,	Neil	Economics
Sifuentes,	Ben	American Studies
Simmons,	Richard	Asian Lang. & Cultures
Sinkoff,	Nancy	Jewish Studies/History
Smith,	Randall	Sociology
Sopher,	Barry	Economics
Takacs	Sarolta	History
Tesar,	Bruce	Linguistics
Tschanz,	Dietrich	Asian Lang. & Cultures
Tu,	Ching-I	Asian Lang. & Cultures
Uhrich,	Kathryn	Chemistry
Voos,	Paula	SMLR
White,	Eugene	Economics
Williams,	Carolyn	English
Yanni,	Carla	Art History

1. Executive Dean Douglas Greenberg called the meeting to order at 1:04.
2. The Dean called for a moment of silence in memory of faculty and staff who passed away since our last meeting. In Memoriam is available at <http://ruinfo.rutgers.edu/InMemoriam/default.aspx>.
3. A motion to accept the agenda for the meeting passed.
4. A motion to approve the minutes from the December 11, 2008 passed with one change under item 9 (Professor Cotter is a member of the Chemistry Department, not Physics).
5. Dean Greenberg noted that despite the evolving fiscal crisis, SAS is moving forward boldly on many fronts. He is especially proud of initiatives in undergraduate education and asked three leaders to report.

a) Sarolta Takacs (History), Dean of the Honors Program, described the effort to provide honors students with unique opportunities and programs to encourage them to explore their academic and intellectual potential, develop leadership skills, and become globally aware citizens. About 1300 students are participating in general honors. Most are admitted from high school through a very competitive process, but Rutgers sophomores may apply. The program has staff presence on College Avenue, Busch, Livingston and Douglass. Recent additions to the program include a language requirement and a summer reading program for incoming students that includes a very popular Sakai blog. Honors housing remains a popular option, as well as service programs that provide the opportunity to mentor other students. Dean Takacs noted that the program depended on faculty to provide interdisciplinary seminars and mentors, and, while she was encouraged by faculty participation, she needs more volunteers.

b) Susan Lawrence (Political Science), the Office of Undergraduate Education's Dean for Educational Initiatives and the Core Curriculum, described the Signature Courses that deal with 21st Century Challenges and serve as a compliment to the Byrne Seminars, which have been successful in bringing first-year students together with senior faculty. The Signature Courses will be open to all first-year students and sophomores in the fall of 2009. These courses give broad multi-disciplinary introductions to the enduring questions the modern research university addresses and to the new challenges of the 21st century. The first three courses inaugurating the program are: **Extinction**, team-taught by Professors Fran Mascia-Lees and Rob Scott of the Department of Anthropology; **Energy and Climate**, taught by a team of professors--Paul Falkowski, Alan Goldman, Monica Mazurek, and Ronald Ransome of the Departments of Marine, Earth, and Planetary Sciences, Chemistry, Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Physics; and **War: Critical Perspectives**, led by Ethel Brooks of the Department of Women's and Gender Studies. One goal of the Signature Courses is to establish a common basis for intellectual exchange outside the classroom, and we aim to create co-curricular programming to support such exchanges as well.

c) Joanne Regulska (Women's & Gender Studies, Geography), Dean of International Programs, described the SAS program to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The commemoration of the UDHR offers a unique opportunity to reflect on the very notion of rights, the meaning of universality, and the tensions between the universal and the particular. Over 100 events—including speakers, lectures, film series, conferences, and dramatic performances—will be taking place university-wide during this recognition of the anniversary of the UHRD. Rutgers has applied for affiliated status with the United Nations which may provide faculty and students with access to UN internships and meetings. Discussions are underway for a second initiative organized around the theme of Ecologies in the Balance.

6. Admissions Report: Michael Beals (Mathematics), Vice Dean for Undergraduate Education, reported on the recruitment of the Class of 2013. The national economic crisis complicated matters, but we got "the class we were looking for." The new class of 4000 brings similar qualifications as the class of 2012. We will also accept 1500 transfer students. The School of Business is now a four year school. This accounts for a slight decline in the SAT/Class Rank of the new recruits. If you combine SAS and Business, the profile is unchanged.

Dean Beals noted that our recruitment program depends heavily on faculty volunteers and reminded us that we will be needed during five recruitment days this academic year. The effort to recruit more out-of- state students failed this year, possibly due to the recession, but we will persist in this initiative.

7. Martha Cotter gave reports on the University Senate and the New Brunswick Faculty Council.

a) The Faculty and Personnel Affairs Committee issued two important reports that were supported by Senate resolutions. The committee affirmed that all members of the faculty, whether tenured or not, are entitled to academic freedom. The Board of Governors was urged to strengthen this affirmation in Regulation 60.5.1. The committee also examined university policies and practices concerning psychological emergencies and recommended that the university support a mental health campaign that includes a training component on mental health awareness for faculty and staff.

b) The Budget and Finance Committee conducted a comprehensive review of the University Foundation's fund raising operating and recommended changes in the fees assessed to support the Foundation as well as a number of other changes and initiatives in fund raising.

c) The New Brunswick Faculty Council passed resolutions supporting the Committee on Academic Standards' recommendations that our academic integrity policy should establish maximum feasible student

participation in the process, that faculty who bring charges of academic dishonesty should be provided with options to simply serve as witness in judicial hearing, and that the university should provide renewed programs to enhance faculty awareness of our academic integrity policies.

8. Larry Scanlon (English), Chair of the Core Requirements Committee, presented a series of courses (previously circulated) that his committee recommended for approval as fulfilling the 21st Century Challenges requirement in the new core curriculum. After discussion of the heavy representation of Affiliate Faculty in the new course offerings, a resolution approving the courses passed unanimously.

9. Dennis Bathory (Political Science), Chair of the Curriculum Committee, presented the curriculum changes recommended by his committee (previously circulated). In response to a recommendation in our fall meeting, Bathory provided a brief overview of important revisions. A motion to approve the Curriculum Committee recommendations passed unanimously.

10. Dean's Report: Dean Greenberg welcomed new area deans Robin Davis, Kathryn Uhrich, and Todd Bristol and acknowledged the invaluable contributions of retiring deans Peter Klein, Veneeta Dayal, and Mike Carr. He invited everyone to the reception for teaching award winners following our meeting.

The Dean reviewed the evolving budget situation, placed our New Jersey situation in a broad national context, and stressed the need to make changes now that will allow us greater discretion in the face of possible future funding reductions. We must be aware of the tremendous financial pressures faced by our students. He also emphasized his determination not to ignore the issue of the growing deficits in deferred maintenance despite the temptations to do so in the current fiscal environment. There will be another open meeting to discuss the budget cuts. The dean was aware that many faculty members might think that even temporary cuts were "broken promises," but he pledged to restore whatever he could when circumstances allowed it. Next year he plans to convene a committee on the **long range** future of SAS that will plan beyond the current crisis. Planning for the long term future cannot be done by the dean alone, although he bears the greatest share of responsibility for the survival of our academic community. Planning our future must be a collective process. We will find ways to build upon our considerable strengths despite the very real fiscal challenges that we face.

In response to a question from the floor—"Would we be able to access any of President Obama's stimulus money?"—Dean Greenberg explained that the budgets of the NIH and NSF will be enhanced. SAS has submitted more than fifty proposals for supplements and new grants. Most of the money that goes directly to the state will be earmarked for Tuition Assistance Grants.

11. Hearing no calls for New Business, the meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
James W. Reed (History)
Secretary of SAS