

**Minutes of the Faculty Assembly
Regular Meeting
25 September 2001**

Name	Department	Present	Absent
Robert Archibald	Economics	X	
Jonathan Aries	Modern Languages	X	
David Armstrong	Physics	X	
Lan Cao	Law	X	
David Dessler	Government	X	
Bob Diaz	Marine Science		X
Dorothy Finnegan	Education	X	
Alan Fuchs	Philosophy	X	
Keith Griffioen	Physics	X	
Colleen Kennedy	English	X	
Katherine Kulick	Modern Languages	X	
John Lee	Law	X	
Bill O'Connell	Business	X	
John Olney	Marine Science	X	
Roger Reis	Education	X	
Margaret Saha	Biology	X	
Laurie Sanderson	Biology	X	
Bill Stewart	Business	X	
Larry Ventis	Psychology	X	
Alan Ward	Government	X	

Alternates in attendance were: Will Hausman and Bill Hawthorne

The meeting was called to order by Colleen Kennedy at 3:35 PM. The minutes of the meeting of 8 May 2001 were approved after deleting the following phrase "in all cases the work of those with fixed term appointments is qualitatively different from that of tenure tract faculty." The minutes of the special meeting of 11 September 2001 were approved. David Dessler reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee met on 14 September 2001 to reconsider the policy on consensual amorous relationships as

directed by the Faculty Assembly. The Faculty Affairs Committee requested that the Executive Committee prepare a revision of the policy. The resulting revision was distributed to the Faculty Assembly on 18 September 2001. Colleen opened the dialogue on the September revision of the policy by first asking for comments concerning the merits of the policy. Discussion ensued and included comments from other members of the Faculty who were in attendance. Much of the debate focused on the issue of consent, with some members arguing that consent might be suspect if there exists asymmetry in a relationship between faculty and a young student. Others argued that merely a difference in age is not evidence of asymmetry, that any conflict in professional responsibility was covered under the April policy, and that the September revised policy constituted a moral code that the Faculty Assembly should not consider. Several members expressed concern over the exemption clause in the September policy. David Armstrong asked for amendments to the text of the September policy that would clarify the document as it would apply to graduate students with instructional responsibility. Those changes were noted. It was pointed out that the September and April policy could not be distinguished relative to prohibitions regarding faculty and graduate students. One member questioned how a representative from one school or constituency, for example a graduate school, should consider an issue that primarily affects only other constituencies? Some expressed the view that every member of the faculty has a professional responsibility for every student. Some members felt that the April policy represented a lower standard of professionalism than the September revision. One member said that she had never seen an issue that had split the Faculty Assembly as had this matter, and that a vote of approval on the motion would allow continuing discussion by the Faculty on the matter. Colleen ruled that a majority vote of those present (18 at the time since one voting member had left the meeting during the debate) was needed to pass the motion. She then called the question. By a vote of 12 yea and 6 no, the following motion was approved: "The Faculty Assembly refers the September revised draft of the Policy on Consensual Amorous Relationships to the Personnel Policy Committee for review."

The Provost offered a brief administrative report concerning budget priorities and the upcoming accreditation review. Lorne Kuffle and Susan Bosworth introduced an upcoming information request in the form of a faculty survey from the Higher Education Institute (University of California, Los Angeles). Colleen asked that the Faculty Affairs Committee work with these individuals to develop additional questions. Colleen introduced senior Peter Maybarduk who will serve as liaison between the Student Assembly and the Faculty Assembly in 2001/2002. Alan Fuchs reported that the Committee on Planning and Resources has recently met with the Provost to discuss priorities for the capital campaign and policies on financial incentives for retiring faculty. With respect to incentives for retirement, Alan reported that the Provost limited the number of years of eligibility for medical coverage of the retired faculty member's spouse some years ago. The Provost said that no further changes would be made without giving advance notice to the faculty, and that she was exploring some changes to the program that would make it more of an incentive for early retirements.

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
John Olney, Secretary

