

**Meeting of the Faculty Senate  
Catawba College  
October 1, 2009  
ADM 233**

Senators present: Sharon Sullivan (Chair), Julie Chamberlain (Vice Chair), Connie Lowery, Steve McKinzie, Chris Zink, Linda Kesler, Erin Dougherty, Margy Stahr, David Fish, Robin Roberts, Sue Calcagni (Secretary)

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM on Thursday, October 1, 2009.

**Old Business:**

- Minutes of the meeting on 9/3/09 were approved as written. There were no minutes for 9/17/09 as the meeting that day was replaced with a faculty forum on J/May term.
- Report from the J/May-term Subcommittee
  - Draft rationale for J/May term was circulated to Senators for review. This document focused on the reasons/benefits of having a J/May-term as part of the curriculum. It did not address issues such as faculty loads, student participation, etc.
  - The Senate discussed this document at length, clarified certain points, and the subcommittee will meet on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss more of the “nuts & bolts” of the J/May term proposal, namely items such as (1) J, May, or both, (2) optional or required of students, (3) optional or required of faculty, (4) faculty compensation, (5) calendar issues, (6) nature of courses offered during J/May term.

**New Business:**

- Items from the faculty:
  - Pay increases for faculty receiving promotion did not happen last year – or the year before it seems. (There is no requirement in the handbook for such pay increases, but it has been common practice.) The Senate has been asked to make sure this isn't forgotten during discussions with the Provost in Spring.
  - Concern has also been raised regarding the lack of faculty peer evaluations, especially for non-tenured faculty.
    - History: this idea was actually voted down by the faculty several years ago with the feeling that (1) this was the responsibility of the department chairs and (2) out of field evaluations are questionable.
    - Faculty, especially non-tenured faculty, are strongly encouraged to solicit peer reviews of their teaching from colleagues other than their department chairs.
  - The Senate was asked to revisit the maternity/paternity policy in the faculty handbook.
    - We do have a policy as required by Federal Law, but it is listed under disability leave as we are required to do. This will be conveyed to the concerned faculty.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Calcagni