

MINUTES

FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2002

Members present: Roger Adams, Jim Dubois, Kevin Gwinner, John Heublein, Eric Maatta, Barb Newhouse, John O'Hara, Gary Paulsen, John Schlup.
Guest: Mark Weiss

The meeting began at 3:30 p.m. in Union 205. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved without change.

Jim generously agreed to represent Faculty Affairs on the University Calendar Committee, at least for the next six months. Key issues facing this committee are a decision on expanding the Fall Break to two days, and consideration of implementing a Friday "stop day" during the "dead week" preceding final exams. A brief discussion took place. John O'H. spoke in favor of a Friday stop day noting that, even with a prohibition on examinations during the dead week, students frequently are swamped with other duties and assignments right before finals. John S. reminded us that the historical reason for Dead Week was to curtail social activity. John O'H. suggested that students and faculty would both benefit from a better definition of the concept behind Dead Week.

Eric gave a brief summary of remarks made by Provost Coffman and President Wefald at the State of the University Address. Brief discussion centered on the Provost's ongoing series of meetings with various campus units concerning the budget process and the challenges likely for the next fiscal year. Roger drew attention to the Wildcats for Higher Education initiative: shouldn't this mailing campaign be extended to include students and parents in order to muster broader support?

The bulk of the meeting was given over to discussing grievance procedures (Appendix G), stemming from serious issues which arose during a hearing conducted in the Fall of 2001. In particular, the committee began to consider policy governing the introduction and withholding of confidential information (Appendix G Section G.2.e), and the issue of panel recommendations for disciplinary and/or punitive actions in cases where Handbook violations were established. The committee agreed to consider these matters further at its next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Maatta