OCTOBER 12, 2011

REPORT FROM NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
FRED GOULDIN, CHAIR
OCTOBER 12, 2011

Faculty Advisory Board for Information Technologies
Paul Welfman, Chair
School of Industrial and Labor Relations

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
Lisa Fortress, College of Veterinary Medicine
Dave Lin, College of Veterinary Medicine
Christiane Limster, College of Arts and Sciences

University Assembly Committee
Robert Kay, College of Engineering

University Benefits Committee
James Turner, College of Arts and Sciences

University Conflicts Committee
Chris Oses, College of Engineering

REPORT FROM THE FINANCIAL POLICIES COMMITTEE (FPC)
RON EHRENBERG
OCTOBER 12, 2011

2011-2012 Financial Policies Committee (FPC)

Joe Burns (ENGR)
Ronald Ehrenberg (ILR)
John Cawley (CHE)
Tom DiCiccio (ILR)
Kifle Gebremedhin (ENGR)
Amy McCune (CALS)
Stephanie Pope (ENGR)
Tony Simon (ROTEL)
Shawkat Toorawa (A&S)
Mildred Warner (AAP)
Peter Wolczanski (A&S)

REPORT FROM DEAN OF FACULTY REPORT
BILL FRY
OCTOBER 12, 2011

SUMMER 2011
Ron Ehrenberg met twice with Vice President Elmira Mangum to keep up to date with the financial issues that Cornell was facing and to discuss the agenda for her discussions with the FPC in the fall.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2011
Vice President Mangum discussed with us:

1. The progress Cornell was making on eliminating the structural deficit in the annual operating budget;
2. The implications of the special draw on the endowment for financial aid dollars ending in FY2014;
3. Trustees’ concerns about the levels of reserves/fund balances at the university and the explanations that she gave them that assuaged their concerns;
4. In response to committee questions, why the structural deficit arose;

AGENDA

• Call to Order – Steve Beer
• Report from Nominations and Elections Committee (Fred Gouldin)
• Report from the Dean of Faculty (Bill Fry)
• Report from the Financial Policies Committee (Ron Ehrenberg)
• Resolution to allow Cornell Faculty to obtain a Cornell Degree
• Approval of Minutes from Meeting on September 14, 2011
• Address from President Skorton
• Good and Welfare

FRED GOULDIN, CHAIR

In advance of the Cornell Board of Trustees meeting on 20-21 October, the faculty, student and staff members of the Cornell Board of Trustees (the “campus trustees”) will hold a listening session with all members of the Cornell community. The objective of this meeting is to hear faculty, staff, student, and local alumni thoughts, concerns, and ideas related to matters that are important to the Board of Trustees.

We are interested in understanding issues which are important to the Cornell community that are not currently the Board of Trustees’ focus and to hear perspectives on new issues. The perspectives shared at this meeting will inform discussions by the campus trustees with the Board chief at the upcoming Board of Trustees meeting and going forward.

Faculty Trustees: Rosemary Avery, Nielson.Hoeksema

University Faculty Committee events with members of the Board of Trustees on Wednesday, 20 October. Please inform us (fpc@cornell.edu) of issues you’d like to address.
RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY BYLAWS TO ALLOW CORNELL FACULTY TO EARN A GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE FROM CORNELL UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS: Currently the University Bylaws stipulate that “No member of the University Faculty may be a candidate for a degree administered by Cornell University” barring these faculty to pursue graduate studies at a competing institution which may lead to faculty retention issues. Additionally, some cases of dual career faculty retention could be addressed with additional opportunities for faculty pursuing academic degrees at Cornell.

WHEREAS: Academic scholarship is changing to include greater emphasis on interdisciplinary activity, understanding, and collaboration. In some cases, this may foster an interest in faculty to obtain advanced degrees in more than one disciplinary area. Some current faculty at Cornell may wish to pursue a Ph.D. or professional degree (e.g., J.D.) in a field beyond their core discipline.

WHEREAS: The General Committee of the Graduate School agreed in November 2010 to changes that would be necessary in the Code of Legislation to allow University Faculty to be a candidate for a Cornell degree. The General Committee voted to “endorse changes in the Code of Legislation, Cornell University Bylaws, and other pertinent university policies and procedures to allow tenured Cornell University faculty members, upon recommendation by their academic dean and with approval by the Provost, and upon admission by a Cornell graduate or professional degree program, to earn a Cornell University graduate or professional degree, when such pursuits are judged to provide institutional benefits and to be in the long-term interest of the university.”

Be it resolved that: Articles XIII.3 and XVII.2 of the University Bylaws be amended to strike the sentence “No member of the University Faculty may be a candidate for a degree administered by Cornell University” and replace it with the sentence “A tenured member of the University Faculty may be a candidate for a graduate or professional degree administered by Cornell University upon recommendation by the faculty member’s academic dean and with approval by the Provost, and upon admission by a Cornell graduate or professional degree program, when such pursuits are judged to provide institutional benefits and to be in the long-term interest of the university.”

REPORT FROM THE FINANCIAL POLICIES COMMITTEE (FPC) NON-EHRENBERG

October 12, 2011

OCTOBER 12, 2011

On a strictly confidential basis, the Provost briefed the committee on the financial plans (capital and operating) for the proposal for the NYC Campus that Cornell will submit to NYC later this month. The purpose of our meeting was to allow us to question him about the likely impact of the NYC project on the finances of the Ithaca campus. Committee members shared with him concerns that they had about a number of the assumptions upon which the plans were based. With the permission of the Provost, after our meeting Amy McGone and I discussed FPC members’ concerns with the two faculty trustees so that they would know them before the trustees as a whole discussed the proposal this week.

Reminder of the Semester

We will meet with VP Mangum to discuss the topics noted above. She will also discuss with us in November or December the FY13 budget that the Provost will bring to the Trustees in January or later. I am hopeful that we will be able to arrange to have the Provost or VP Mangum make a presentation to the Faculty Senate on the FY13 budget before it is adopted by the Trustees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2011

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

OCTOBER 12, 2011