
FAC'S SHEET

Newsletter of the University of Scranton Faculty Affairs Council
December 2007

Yes, There IS a December Meeting!

FAC Meeting Scheduled For December 11th In Leahy Auditorium

The fourth FAC meeting for 2007- 2008 is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11 in Leahy Auditorium.

Lunch will be served beginning at 11:15 a.m. with the business meeting starting at 11:30 a.m.

The Executive Committee urges all members to attend. Check in the right hand column for the agenda.

FAC Meetings For 2007-2008

The FAC Executive Committee has scheduled monthly membership meetings for the 2007-2008 academic year on the following dates and at the places indicated. All regular meetings are set for Tuesdays, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Additional meetings may be called to address special issues or concerns.

December 11, 2007 - Leahy Auditorium
February 12, 2008 – Brennan Hall, Room 509
March 11, 2008 – Leahy Auditorium
April 8, 2008 – Brennan Hall, Room 509
May 13, 2008 – Brennan Hall, Room 509

FAC'S SHEET

is published periodically by the Faculty Affairs Council at the University of Scranton. The editor is Willis Conover. Comments and suggestions from the membership are welcomed. Members may also check FAC's Web site at www.scranton.edu/fac for further information on the Faculty Affairs Council, an affiliate of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). Copies of the Faculty Contract and Handbook are found on the site. Members may also link to the national AAUP home page.

AGENDA

For December 11th Meeting

1. Chair's Report (Michael Friedman)
 - a. Online programs - Deltak contract
 - b. Handbook Committee Issues
 - 1) Professional staff with teaching duties
 - 2) Off-campus courses
 - 3) Department meetings for reappointment
2. Contract Administrator's Report (Kevin Nordberg)
3. Treasurer's Report (Dan West)
4. Grievance Officer's Report (Ned Warner)
5. Secretary's Report - Elections (Joe Wilson)
6. Old Business (Michael Friedman)
 - a. Sabbatical clock proposal
7. New Business (Michael Friedman)
 - a. KSOM mandatory FAP replacement plan

Formal Vote Unnecessary

Moylan, Warner, and West Elected to Executive Committee

Three positions on the FAC Executive Committee set for election this month were filled when only three nominations were received by the December 1 deadline.

Betsey Moylan, Ned Warner, and Dan West were elected by the single ballot cast by Secretary Joe Wilson.

Warner and West were reelected while Moylan will be the new member of the committee. Joe Wilson decided not to seek reelection. Members serve two-year terms.

At its next meeting, the Committee will decide how offices will be distributed.

FAC OFFICERS 2007-2008

Chairperson

Michael Friedman
English, CLP 210
941-4229 friedmanm1@scranton.edu

Contract Administration Officer

Kevin Nordberg
Philosophy, St. Thomas 554
941-7448 nordberg@scranton.edu

Grievance Officer

Edward Warner
Communication, St. Thomas 4122
941-4135 warnere1@scranton.edu

Secretary

Joseph Wilson
Foreign Lang. & Literatures, O'Hara 321
941-4220 wilsonj1@scranton.edu

Treasurer

Daniel West
Health Admin. & Human Resources
McGurrin 417
941-4126 westd1@scranton.edu

MINUTES

from the November 13th FAC Meeting

Michael Friedman called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

Chair's Report: Friedman reported first on the FAP replacement plans. He announced that PCPS faculty had voted for a voluntary FAP replacement plan; that KSOM was still in the process of formulating its plan; and that FAC had received a draft of a voluntary plan for librarians. He reminded the faculty that for those without tenure, the process for applying for released time would be the same, and that in the case of the KSOM plan, all the faculty would have to vote on it, since it was a mandatory plan.

Friedman then discussed the pending Faculty Handbook matter of professional staff whose primary responsibility is teaching. FAC is reluctant to see those posts turned into Faculty Specialist positions, since that would entail a new search and the current holders of those posts could, in theory at least, lose their jobs. FAC is working out an agreement with the FPC that would grandfather the current occupants into those staff positions, but once the posts became vacant, they would become Faculty Specialist positions.

The Handbook Committee is also working to clarify the question of reimbursement for off-campus travel for teaching regular courses. It seems that some faculty are being reimbursed for such travel, but others are not. FAC is working to resolve the matter and is requesting input from faculty who are doing clinical supervision off-campus. The Handbook Committee is also reviewing the possible difficulties in the relationship between the tenure

clock and the sabbatical clock. It is possible that that someone who stops the tenure clock twice for adoption or childbirth may actually qualify for a sabbatical before s/he has achieved tenure. FAC and the administration have agreed that sabbaticals should only be available for tenured faculty. It was also announced that FAC and FPC have agreed that a policy for Long-Term Care insurance will be available on a voluntary basis starting in Spring semester 2008.

Contract Administrator's Report: Kevin Nordberg reported that Blue Cross was in the process of changing its subsidiary for its Optichoice program to Davis. Anyone planning to visit an optician should make sure that the optician is part of the Davis family of providers. A list is available on Blue Cross's web site. It was also reported that some doctors and dentists were changing their affiliations.

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MINUTES from November 13th Meeting

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Nordberg also reported that the issue with the background checks on new faculty seems to be satisfactorily resolved. FAC's lawyer, the FPC, and Sterling have agreed that a new form for the background checks would seek only information on criminal convictions. The faculty remains concerned that information so gathered could be misused.

Treasurer's Report: Dan West announced that all new faculty had joined the union. He also distributed a balance sheet of FAC's asset distribution. Right now, the bulk of FAC's assets are in the credit union and in UBS. An advisory committee has suggested placing additional funds into a money market account with check-writing privileges. The membership, by advisory vote, instructed the Executive Committee to take what action it feels appropriate on this matter.

Grievance Report: Ned Warner reported on the History Department grievance. He announced that all parties have agreed that in the future, departments will give their input on a prospective rank and/or tenure guarantee candidate in advance of the meeting of the Board on Rank and Tenure.

Secretary's Report: Joe Wilson announced that nominations for this year's election for FAC officers would be due on 30 November. As of the time of the meeting, only two people had declared for three posts.

Old Business: Friedman reported that FAC was in the process of renewing an agreement for staff to park in S Lot over intersession and summers. In response to complaints and concerns from the membership, the agreement reached last year would be modified somewhat.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35.

Respectfully submitted:
Joe Wilson, FAC Secretary

Rosenberg Grant Applications

The FAC Executive Committee invites applications for the Sheldon I. Rosenberg Union Leadership Development Grant, given annually to a member of FAC to pay for all expenses related to that faculty member's participation in the AAUP Summer Institute, tentatively scheduled for July 24 – 27, 2008 at the University of Rhode Island at Kingston.

The Summer Institute features seminars on subjects like academic freedom and legislative issues that impact on higher education, along with training workshops that deal with contract administration, grievance procedures, and collective bargaining negotiations. The Institute also incorporates social events and many opportunities to network with colleagues from around the country.

To be considered for a Rosenberg Grant, applicants must submit an essay of approximately 500 words (two typed pages) describing the contributions that they believe they can make to the welfare of the University through their connection with the union. This essay should touch upon the following topics: the reasons for the applicant's interest in working with FAC, any background or previous experiences that would help prepare the applicant for such work, the skills that the applicant hopes to sharpen by participation in the Summer Institute, and any future plans for involvement in union activities.

Applications should include standard contact

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Rosenberg Grant Applications

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information, including the faculty member's name, rank, department, campus phone number, and email address.

Please submit applications to Joe Wilson, FAC Secretary, by hard copy or email attachment (*wilsonj1@scranton.edu*), by February 15, 2008.

The members of the Executive Committee will assess the applications and announce the winner of the Rosenberg Grant during the spring semester.

Luncheon Menu

for December 11th Meeting

- **Mixed Green Salad with Two Dressings**
- **Turkey Clubs on Whole Wheat Bread**
- **Chicken Caesar Wraps**
- **Grilled Veggie Wraps**
- **Egg Salad on Kaiser Rolls**
- **Rolls and Butter**
- **Brownies**
- **Coffee, Tea, Soda, and Water**

Serving will begin at 11:15 a.m. in Leahy Auditorium
