

Yeshiva University Manhattan Campuses Faculty Council
Brookdale Center, Room 1008
April 27, 2012
Minutes

Present: William Arsenio, Joan Beder, Gabriel Cwilich, Carl Feit, Jeffrey Freedman, Anatoly Frenkel, Paula Geyh, Malvina Halberstam, Arthur Hyman, Jesse Itzkowitz, Joanne Jacobson, Nora Nachumi, Aliza Rotenstein, Louise Silverstein, Moshe Sokolow, William Stenhouse, Lynn Wishart, Marnin Young; Michael Gower, YU Vice President for Business Affairs and CFO, guest

Vice President Gower, having met previously with members of the Faculty Council ad hoc Finance and Budget Committee, responded at length to questions regarding the state of current university finances and budget planning.

Moved by J. Jacobson and seconded that she would request meetings for a small group of Faculty Council Representatives with Provost Lowengrub and President Joel to get information about the academic budget planning process and explore how faculty might participate at various levels in planning processes that impact on academic programs and faculty salaries and benefits. Motion carried.

Moved by J. Itzkowitz and seconded to accept the Faculty Council minutes from the meetings of February 10 and March 16, 2012. Motion carried.

Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded to consider asking for a meeting with appropriate members of the Board of Trustees after meeting with the President and the Provost. Motion carried.

Four members (J. Beder, J. Itzkowitz, J. Jacobson, L. Silverstein) of the Executive Committee reported on their meeting with the Provost on April 23. The agenda included the following: participation in Deans' Council and Faculty Council meetings; proposed incentive retirement plans for faculty; faculty representation in the decision-making process for faculty benefits; the Faculty Council's role in tenure and promotion denials and elections to the Appeals Committee.

The Provost invited a member of the Faculty Council to attend regular meetings of the Deans' Council. Moved by P. Geyh and seconded that the Provost and one Dean, representing the Deans' Council, will be regular participants in Faculty Council full session general meetings. Faculty-only Representatives on the Council may also meet in executive session. Motion carried.

A proposed basic retirement plan, with two options, developed by members of the ad hoc Faculty Benefits, Compensation and Resources Committee and J. Jacobson, was presented to the Provost. After discussion of the Provost's recommended revisions, the Faculty Council referred this revised two-option basic retirement plan back to the ad hoc Faculty Benefits, Compensation and Resources Committee for

clarification regarding eligibility based on years of service (or a combination of age and years of service) and tenure status.

Members of the Executive Committee reported on their meeting with the Middle States Association Accreditation Review team on April 24.

Moved by J. Jacobson and seconded to accept the Faculty Handbook as presented with its latest revisions, including Faculty Council By-laws, by the Handbook Committee to the Faculty Council. Motion carried. After technical corrections are made in the Provost's Office, the Handbook will be returned to the President and the Board of Trustees for approval. The Handbook is open for revision by the Faculty Council at any time.

Moved by J. Jacobson and seconded to approve the draft of a letter addressed to President Joel and Members of the Board of Trustees regarding faculty salaries and retirement benefits. Motion carried. Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded to get approval via email of each member of the Faculty Council for including his or her name on the letter. Motion carried.

Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded that the Faculty Council representatives from each faculty body will identify the best way to distribute information about the activities of the Faculty Council, including the letter and notification of the pending creation of a public web page for the Faculty Council. Motion carried. L. Wishart will contact the Provost's Office regarding the creation of a web page.

Moved by N. Nachumi and seconded to ask the Provost's Office about on-going participation by Torah Studies representatives in the Faculty Council. Motion carried. The rules affecting Alternates from any faculty body appear in section 2.5 of the Faculty Council By-laws.

Moved by J. Itzkowitz and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2 pm.

Minutes submitted by Lynn Wishart, Secretary