

University of Idaho  
**FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**2003-2004 Meeting #11, Tuesday, January 20, 2004**

**Present:** Wagner (Chair), Bailey (Vice-chair), Baillargeon, Burnett, Chandler, Cloud, Dockrey, Exon, McGuire, Pikowsky, Pitcher (w/o vote), Reese, Fairchild, Rinker, Voxman (w/o vote), Woolston, Young, Zemetra

**Absent:** Bitterwolf, Guenther, Lillard, Morgan, Stegner, Reese

**Observers:** 10

**Call to Order.** A quorum being present, Faculty Council Chair Wagner, called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. in the Brink Hall Faculty Lounge.

**Minutes.** The council accepted the minutes of meeting #10 of the 2003-2004 Faculty Council, held on December 9, 2003 as distributed with one minor correction.

**Chair's Report.** Chair Wagner distributed a letter from the SBOE Executive Director, Gary Stivers, responding to (and essentially denying) the Council request for including additional faculty members on the SBOE Presidential Search Committee. Wagner also distributed a letter from the Provost regarding sabbatical leaves, and suggested that this might be a topic for a future meeting. The Chair then informed the Council of the recent legislative luncheon meeting in Boise that he, Jeff Bailey, Bob Rinker, Tom Bitterwolf, Bill Voxman, and Kathy Belknap attended. The meeting provided a good opportunity for faculty representatives from across the state to discuss their concerns with regard to the challenges currently facing the state's institutions of higher learning. Legislators in attendance appeared interested in and receptive to the points made by the various faculty members.

At the request of Chair Wagner the Council members then turned to developing a format and a set of questions to serve as a basis for the meetings of the Council with the presidential candidates. After some discussion, the Council asked Vice-chair Bailey to compile a list of five or six questions that would capture the essence of the various suggested queries.

**Provost's Report.** Provost Pitcher called the Councilors' attention to the opportunities they and others would have to meet with the candidates. He also noted that Chair Wagner, Vice-chair Bailey, and Secretary of the Council Voxman will meet with the Selection Committee in February. He encouraged Councilors' to give feedback to them as well as directly to the Selection Committee or the SBOE. He also encouraged further involvement of the councilors in the accreditation dialogue with Doug Adams that will soon be taking place.

**Committee Reports.**

With relatively little discussion the Council approved unanimously the following Notices of Intent:

- FC-04-011** Notice of Intent: College of Natural Resources/Wilderness & Nature Conservation Minor name change to Parks, Protected Areas, and Wilderness Conservation
- FC-04-014** Notice of Intent: College of Natural Resources/Tourism and Leisure Enterprises Minor name change to Sustainable Tourism and Leisure Enterprises
- FC-04-016** Notice of Intent: College of Natural Resources/Forest Resources
- FC-04-018** Notice of Intent: College of Engineering/Biological & Agricultural Engineering
- FC-04-019** Notice of Intent: College of Engineering/Dept. Materials, Metallurgical, Mining and Geological Engineering (Discontinue minor in Mining Engineering)
- FC-04-020** Notice of Intent: College of Education/Division of Adult, Counselor, and Technology Education (Discontinue Adult and Organizational Learning, M.Ed.)
- FC-04-021** Notice of Intent: College of Education/Division of Adult, Counselor, and Technology Education (School of Psychology, expand delivery of Ed.S. to Coeur d'Alene.)
- FC-04-022** Notice of Intent: College of Engineering/ Dept. Materials, Metallurgical, Mining and Geological Engineering name change to Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

The Notices of Intent from the College of Graduate Studies generated considerably more discussion. The discussion centered on the proposed changing of the name of the UI College of Graduate Studies to the UI College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies. It was argued that this change would better reflect the recent inclusion in the Graduate College of the new M.S. and Ph.D programs in Neuroscience, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology. The interdisciplinary Environmental Science (ES) program, previously housed in the now defunct College of Letters and Sciences, is also presently administered in the Graduate College. The Provost and Councilors had questions regarding the advisability of placing the ES program in the Graduate College. Questions also arose in connection with how decisions were made in determining where such programs should be located. John Hammel, Chair of UCC, Don Crawford, Director of ES program, Kathy Aiken, Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate College and others pointed out that because of the unusually wide spectrum of faculty participation (from 26 departments and all colleges) in the ES program, it was not appropriate to incorporate it into any one college, other than the one proposed. The College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary studies would provide a “neutral” home for this program. In response to questions from the Provost, assurances were given that no additional costs result from incorporating the ES program in the Graduate College and that the infrastructure remains essentially the same. Associate Dean Aiken noted that since the inception of the ES program, its administrative costs have been borne by the Provost’s office. Voxman suggested that the proposed “solution” to the ES dilemma might be viewed as a stop-gap measure, and that in the future, consideration be given to creating a College of Interdisciplinary Studies which could accommodate and give more focus to a variety of interdisciplinary programs, both undergraduate and graduate. Councilor McGuire also expressed interest in this idea. Chair Wagner noted that more discussion was in order and because of the lateness of the hour, entertained a motion to postpone action on the Notion of Intent until the next meeting. Councilors Dockrey and McGuire provided the motion, which was approved unanimously by the Council.

Near the conclusion of the meeting, Councilor Dockrey distributed an ASUI sponsored resolution addressing the Senate’s concern about the lack of student input in the UI decision-making process. This concern arose in large part because of the recent decision to “place all recreational facilities, fields, and control of affiliated budgets under the control of UI Athletics.” Councilors Bailey and Zemetra had questions about the ultimate intent of the resolution and what would be an acceptable and effective decision-making process for taking into account student input. Provost Pitcher noted that the decision process used in moving the recreation facilities under the control of the Athletics Department was not consistent with the ASUI resolution’s “Whereas, throughout the initial phases of the Administrative restructuring, students and faculty were told they would be involved with all changes affecting campus life” clause. He emphasized that there were now ongoing conversations among administrators and students regarding the controversial restructuring and was hopeful that this issue could be successfully resolved. The ASUI resolution will be revisited at the next Council meeting, February 3, 2004.

Councilor McGuire ably substituted for the ailing Councilor Lillard in moving adjournment; the motion was seconded by Councilor Fairchild, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Voxman  
Interim Secretary of the Faculty Council