

Minutes of the Emory Faculty Council

January 18, 1994

Present: P. Castellano, D. Danner, W. Dillingham, M. Gutterman, A. Hartgraves, S. Jinks-Robertson, M. Kaufman, H. King, F. Lechner, R. Letz, C. Lemon, L. Liebeskind, R. Schlant, J. Scott, S. Sherman, L. Smith

Frank Lechner, Chair of the Faculty Council, opened the meeting at 3:15 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Dr. Lechner then reported that a committee to review the faculty life-cycle has been formed (chaired by Donald Fyr, a professor in the Law School); it will report to the Council later this year.

Harriet King, Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs, outlined proposed changes in the platform party at Commencement in May. The outgoing president of the Senate is expected to be included as the highest elected faculty representative.

Dr. Lechner initiated discussion of a new university-wide lecture series, to be instituted at the initiative of the Council, in which distinguished Emory faculty would convey the significance of their work or field to their colleagues. The main purpose would be to bring the Emory faculty together in an intellectual context and enable us to benefit from the insights of our colleagues. In discussion, Council members made several points to consider in planning such a series: it would need to be given some special status and incentive, lectures would have to be at a convenient time and place on campus, speakers must be truly outstanding, an interactive format might work better than a straight lecture, an informal dinner or reception might make it more appealing, speakers would have to represent different constituencies, and there may be some existing series on campus (such as the informal lecture series at the museum) that could serve as a model. With such practical considerations in mind, Dr. Lechner will prepare a more specific proposal.

Mel Lockhart, Vice-Provost for Academic Enrollment and Planning, presented an overview of the budget process and projections. She stressed that both enrollments and endowment income are expected to remain flat in the near future, but that the cost of building maintenance is expected to increase to \$23 million this year. About half of the total budget of \$225 million will be spent on salaries. Lockhart noted a gap between a proposed 6% overall increase in the university budget and the slower expected growth in revenues, and commented on large request for indirect expenses. Schools have requested a 7.7% increase for next year, service units a 17% increase, in part to cover infrastructure and service needs that have lagged behind faculty and student growth. The functioning and cost of the service units will be examined further. Lockhart noted that Emory had made progress in bringing faculty salaries up to levels comparable to those at other institutions. Full Professors are now at the 83rd, Associate Professors at the 75th, and Assistant Professors at the 80th percentile.

The Council decided to postpone further discussion of Emory's direction. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.