

Minutes of the Emory Faculty Council

January 17, 1995

Present: Batterson, Beard, Bugge, Castellano, Chace, Freer, Frye, Greene-Plauth, Johnson, Kelley, King, Lancaster, Lechner, Letz, L'Hernault, Liebeskind, Miller, Moneyham, Moore, Pettigrew, Schlant, Sherman, and Smith

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as circulated.

Vice Provost Marion Creekmore then continued the discussion about the Carter Center and Emory University that had begun at the last meeting. The purpose of the conversation is to lead to information about things that the Faculty Council might do to increase involvement of the University in and with the Carter Center. The mission of the Carter Center is to do things that will make a difference in the lives of people. It has three categories of programs: Urban revitalization such as TAP and the America Project; Health, both international and domestic; and international programs involving democratization and development.

In the conversation about connections the following emerged:

Theology is engaged in community outreach through churches and other social organizations, perhaps this could serve as an interface with some Carter Center programs.

The Department of Religious Studies and the Law and Religion program have an interest in conflict resolution that is a natural fit with the Carter Center as evidenced by the conference last fall.

When talking about the mission of the Carter Center it is important that the tone does not come across as anti-academic. There are other barriers to feeling that we are closely related entities such as the cost to use facilities of the Carter Center, little information to faculty about events at Carter Center to which faculty might want to come and when information is sent there is usually a charge for participation. Share information internally not just with the Atlanta Journal Constitution.

Overlap of the two institutions should be in terms of individuals, not departments or programs. Overlap for the students is particularly important. The university as a whole needs to understand the nature of the internship programs including standards that assure academic integrity.

Could we think in terms of ways classes might help the Carter Center. For example, Public Health has a student who needs to learn to do evaluation, could that student use a program in the Carter Center as a subject?

Perhaps need to re imagine what it means to be a fellow in the Carter Center; use panels of faculty, or short term involvement on an issue as the model.

Lechner introduced a proposal for a distinguished faculty lecture series. The proposal is supported by the President and Provost of the University. After some discussion of the particulars of the proposal, especially the lead time from invitation to lecture, it was unanimously approved.

The next Town Hall meeting will be in the spring term. Suggestions for the event included video tape, and distribution of material in advance of the meeting so that there is a topic for discussion. The group agreed that the topic for spring should be a follow-up to the inaugural address.

Sheryl Goodman has resigned as chair of the Faculty Life Cycle committee. The leadership of the faculty council will look at the possibility of identifying an emeritus member of the faculty to undertake the task.