COB Faculty Council: 2007-2008 Summary of Activities

Faculty Council Members
Cindy Seipel & MaryJo Billiot (ACCT/IS)
Larry Blank & David Daniel (ECON/IB/USC)
Maria de Boyrie & Gerson Goldberg (FIN)
Minjoon Jun & Carlyn Chavez (MGT)
Kelly Tian & Pookie Sautter – replaced by Shuan McQuitty in the spring (MKTG)

Faculty Development
An initial amount of $8,000 was provided for Faculty combined with an allocated but unused $995 from the previous year’s funds due to a cancelled activity, for a total $8,995 available at the beginning of the year for funding. A total of twelve requests were funded among eleven faculty members over four separate application periods using the full $8,995.

COB Statement of Professional Standards/Expectations
Dean Brook requested that Faculty Council develop a statement of ethical standards for the college to meet AACSB requirements. Faculty Council reviewed examples from several other business colleges and developed a “Statement of Professional Standards/Expectations” for the COB. These were presented to CEC with the recommendation that they be presented for comment, revision, and adoption by the COB faculty. Faculty Council noted that when reviewing the developed statement faculty should keep in mind the inevitable diversity of views on professional and ethical standards, and consequently allow for substantial latitude from their personal views in an effort to reach some consensus.

Report on Shared Governance and Communication in the COB
Faculty Council completed a report titled "Suggestions on Shared Governance and Communication in the COB" which was initially provided it to the college’s deans for comment, and then distributed to the faculty. The report was based on AAUP guidelines and responses from a survey administered to COB faculty in Spring-2007. CEC discussed the report, expressed agreement with the suggestions made in the report, and commended Faculty Council for it. In discussions on shared governance, Dean Carruthers has encouraged faculty to take a more active role. In particular, he has encouraged greater initiative taking by committees.

McCarter Research Award
The college was provided with an endowment to fund approximately $448 per year to be awarded for research efforts in the college. CEC decided to use this to support graduate student research, and subsequently asked Faculty Council to develop guidelines for the application and award processes. Faculty Council developed these guidelines, including criteria and time-lines, and they can be downloaded in PDF format form the COB web site. Faculty Council developed this initial set of guidelines with the intent of revising them after 1–2 years of experience with administering the award. The first of these awards was given to a graduate student in the spring semester.
Outstanding Graduating and International Senior Awards
Faculty Council voted on the Outstanding Graduating Senior for the COB for Fall-2007, and also voted on the COB representative for the university-wide International Senior Award.

Process for Course Review
Faculty Council discussed issues surrounding course review in the college. Members agreed that a more thorough course review process needs to be developed beyond what currently exists in the COB Process Manual, and should include how some of the currently stated objectives would be accomplished. Faculty Council felt that the Undergraduate Committee was the most appropriate group to develop this process description, and consequently voted unanimously to recommend to CEC that the Undergraduate Committee be asked to develop a process description for course review that includes the following:

- mechanisms and/or rotating timetables for initiating evaluation of courses;
- development of objectives for a course review;
- method for selecting materials, student opinions, and instructor input;
- the role of outcomes assessment of course objectives in the review process; and
- criteria for recommendations.

The recommendation was submitted to the college deans.

Department Head Selection Process
Dean Brook drafted a proposal for department head selection process in the COB and gave it to Faculty Council for review and suggestions. In the spring semester, Faculty Council members individually reviewed the document and then discussed it and made recommendations for minor revisions at a later meeting. Faculty Council then developed a draft with minor revisions, discussed it, and submitted it back to Dean Brook for evaluation.

COB Faculty Awards
At the end of the spring semester, Faculty Council requested and then reviewed COB Faculty Award nomination packets. Members reviewed packets, and then met to discuss the nominations and make decisions for the COB awards.

Domenici Building Project
In the spring semester, several Faculty Council members were approached by several other COB faculty members with questions and concerns about the Domenici Building Project, and asked if Faculty Council could seek more information about the project from the dean. Faculty Council discussed the questions and concerns that were presented by the various faculty members at a meeting. Ultimately, Faculty Council developed a memo that was sent to the dean asking three primary questions that attempted to cover the general ideas behind the issues that had been brought up, but also provided the more specific questions for context. In order that the faculty might have this information before the fall convocation, Faculty Council asked that the dean respond in early summer so that the faculty could follow-up and then have an informed discussion at the convocation, and the dean responded with a memo to the faculty in July.