National Capital Region Faculty Association  
22 September 2008 Open Meeting

In attendance: Angela Huebner (President), Adil Godrej (President Elect), Raymond Major (Treasurer), Melony A. Price-Rhodes (Secretary), Nick Stone (Past President), David Sample, Tom Grizzard, Glenn Moglen, Michael Mortimer, Marcie Boucouvalas

I. Call to Order  
President Huebner called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm

II. Reading and Approval of Minutes  
The minutes of the Executive Committee were approved as submitted after a motion and voice vote.

III. Old Business  
A. Statement of the NCR Faculty Association on Critical Space Needs  
   Open discussion/comments on statement  
   Intended next step  
   Tom Grizzard gave a brief history of this issue as relevant to the National Capital (NCR) region. The document (letter) that Tom prepared was distributed to the Faculty Ass’n members that were present.

   There was a brief question and answer period. Nick Stone discussed a few examples of the emails that he had received from faculty that had read the letter. These areas discussed 1) the reimbursement the university pays for teaching vs. research activities and 2) university building leased agreements.

   Nick suggested that we craft and insert additional information in which the NCR Faculty Ass’n recognizes the complex issues involved in the critical space needs.

   A motion was made to amend the current letter; the modifications will be viewed by the NCR Faculty Ass’n Executive Committee and sent to university management to include Provost McNamee. The motion was seconded; a voice vote approved the motion.

B. Graduate Education in the NCR  
   Update from Nick Stone  
   Nick stated that in the past couple of weeks he had sent the document to Graduate School Dean Karen DePauw who communicated overall positive comments.

   A copy of the document was distributed to those in attendance. A brief question and answer period took place. It was communicated that the Faculty Ass’n does not know how the document is currently being used by the administration nor how it will be used in the future.

   The draft of the Graduate Education vision statement will be sent to Raymond for posting to the Faculty Ass’n website (www.faculty.ncr.vt.edu) after edits suggested at the meeting by Marcie Boucouvalas.
Raymond Major will post the document to the Faculty Ass’n website if it is not already posted. He shared the organizations website www.faculty.ncr.vt.edu

C. Discussion on 3 Semester Schedule
What should be the role of the FA in this effort?
After a brief discussion it was agreed by the attendees that the report would be sent to the appropriate personnel in the Graduate School and the implementation would be a departmental decision. A motion was made to accept the draft report with an amendment to not implement a pilot program during 2009 as stated in the report, but have the Graduate school decide on the next steps. The motion was seconded and passed with a voice vote by the attendees.

D. Change in date for Provost Visit: 11 Nov 12-1:30 meeting NVC
This is the only date that the Provost can visit the NCR Faculty Assn. this semester. It was noted that the date scheduled is the Veteran’s Day holiday

IV. New Business
A. Representative for the Commission on Graduate Studies & Policy
Rosary Lalk was the former representative in this position and has retired. The time commitment for this role is approximately once a month and involves a conference call. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Faculty Ass’n. would query the NCR faculty asking for a volunteer. Rosary will also be contacted and asked if she will assist the organizations search by providing additional details about the position.

Raymond Major presented the Treasurer’s Report. The organization has a balance of $340.45. There were 30 members in the organization during the previous year. Raymond’s goal is to have these same members renew their membership and increase the membership from this number.

Also discussed:
1-There will be a convocation in the NCR during the semester. The dates have not been announced. The NCR Faculty Assn. may be involved in this event.

2-Tom Grizzard announced to the group that in a center-wide meeting recently, it was communicated that the front door to the building would be the only door accessible to enter the building. This was for security reasons; the security guard’s station would be relocated to this area.

3 Adil Godrej posed a question on how the organization could increase attendance at the meetings.

4- Nick Stone asked if anyone had heard any additional information about the states/university budget cuts; would the percentage be 5%, 10%, or 15%? No one had heard any new information

5- Nick Stone also asked if the NCR had representation on the university’s faculty senate and suggested we pursue involvement in this. Angela would pursue this.
V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57

Next meeting scheduled for 20 Oct 2-3:30 Room 401 NVC