

## **Council of the Princeton University Community Minutes, November 12, 2007**

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of the Princeton University Community held Monday, November 12, 2007, in Betts Auditorium, School of Architecture. Present were council members Professor Armstrong, Mr. Ayalon, Ms. Bakanic, Mr. Biederman, Mr. Burstein, Ms. Chen, Ms. Dickerson, Mr. Dwoskin, Provost Eisgruber (chair pro tem), Mr. Field, Professor Fiske, Professor Hasty, Ms. Heisler, Mr. Hernandez, Ms. Hutzly, Mr. Joshi, Ms. Lin, Professor Lyon, Dean Malkiel, Mr. McCrudden, Mr. McDonough, Ms. McGinty, Ms. Newell, Professor Nunokawa, Ms. Rosen, Ms. Saltz, Mr. Sanford, Dr. Varrin, Mr. Weinstein; Ms. Halliday served as secretary.

### **Opening Business**

In the absence of the President, Provost Eisgruber chaired the meeting. He began by inviting all members of the Council to the yearly open meeting that evening of the Priorities Committee, which he chairs.

There were no questions.

### Report of the Resources Committee

Professor Nolan McCarty, acting dean of the Woodrow Wilson School and chair of the CPUC Resources Committee, summarized the committee's work during the past year. The main agenda topic was sweatshop labor and in particular whether the University should join the Workers' Rights Consortium [WRC] in addition to its current membership on the Fair Labor Association [FLA]. He reminded the Council that the Resources Committee had recommended Princeton's affiliation with the FLA to monitor issues related to sweatshop labor as they apply to merchandise bearing the University's name or identified with the University and also to foster efforts to improve the treatment of workers around the world. The University has assumed a leadership position in the FLA which has developed a code of conduct for member industries and companies and which requires that members disclose factory locations.

The committee had undertaken a comparison of the two organizations to help understand better the potential benefits of joining one or the other or both organizations, and Professor McCarty summarized the committee's findings. That comparison is attached here as part of the committee's report to the President in Appendix 1. He noted the outreach conducted by the committee to experts and board members of the organizations to understand each. Among other findings, opportunities to consult with peer institution, to promote codes of conduct, and to monitor reports about labor conditions in factories were cited as potential benefits of joining the WRC. The committee, however, was concerned by the disruptive tactics used by members of a student group with membership on WRC with respect to the FLA. It was noted that WRC's efforts to create a designated suppliers program raised legal questions. The committee considered whether Princeton can support WRC's efforts, engaging both organizations, without joining WRC.

During the discussion that followed Professor McCarty's presentation, members of the campus community associated with the Princeton Workers' Rights organization asked how the University could support WRC without being a member, and they asked for clarification about next steps. Professor McCarty noted that FLA and WRC have worked well together in certain circumstances, with initiatives in the Dominican Republic noted as an example of success in improving workers' rights. The University would seek to support efforts that would leverage the positive efforts of both organizations. He said that the Resources Committee would be making a recommendation to the President in the near future, and he thought a decision would be forthcoming this fall.

The Provost thanked Professor McCarty and his committee for the work that they had done to clarify these questions and thanked the Council for the opinions and reactions that they had contributed to the discussion.

#### Report of the University Librarian regarding Planned Renovations to Firestone Library

University Librarian Karin Trainer reported on planning for renovations to Firestone Library, beginning with a brief history of the facility, which celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1997. The first research library of this size built after World War II, Firestone is distinguished by its open stacks. In the past decade the University has considered renovations to the facility because of age, because of the yearly significant growth of the collections, and because of a desire to make the library a welcoming space capable of accommodating new information technology. Health and safety concerns are also prominent among the reasons to plan a renovation now – a sprinkler system has to be installed, for example. Outreach efforts to the Library staff, to faculty and students are now underway, updating earlier consultative efforts in 2004-05. A faculty committee has been formed, and architects are expected to begin the design phase this spring. The Librarian noted that the renovations will be done over a ten-year period to minimize disruption of services.

During discussion that followed Ms. Trainer's presentation, she explained that the new science library, the Lewis Library, would have little impact on Firestone because the collections have little overlap. The Provost thanked Ms. Trainer for her report and reiterated her request for suggestions from members of the campus community about the renovations.

#### National Collegiate Athletics Association Reaccreditation

The Provost introduced Clayton Marsh, University Counsel, and chair of the campus steering committee for the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) reaccreditation process. Mr. Marsh noted that the NCAA introduced this accreditation process in 1998 when Princeton was first evaluated; that Princeton had submitted an interim report in 2003; that this year's process requires a detailed study of several aspects of intercollegiate athletics at Princeton. The three specific areas which the NCAA has made the focus of this cycle's reaccreditation are

- ❖ governance and rules compliance which considers how the institution makes decisions about athletics and how the institution ensures adherence to NCAA rules and regulations;

- ❖ academic integrity which is focused on the academic life of the student athlete;
- ❖ equity and wellbeing which include gender equity among students and coaching staff and efforts to encourage and support diversity among the staff and students.

Data collection for the self-study has begun. Noting that outreach efforts would be part of this effort, he invited comments and questions, distributing the list of the steering committee membership with contact information. The committee hopes to add value to the experience of the student athlete and to contribute meaningfully to athletics at Princeton. He outlined the timeframe for the effort: the report of the committee's self-study would be submitted to the NCAA by May 1, 2008 and an NCAA peer review committee would visit campus as part of the reaccreditation in the fall. A final decision about accreditation would be announced by the NCAA in winter 2009.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Halliday  
Secretary