Faculty Council Meeting
June 19, 2012

Present: Drs. Walworth, Weiss, Stock, Walker, Kiss, DiCicco-Bloom, Hegyi, Roth

Absent: Drs. Aisner, Ayers, Kim, Millonig

Continuation of the discussion held at the May Faculty Council meeting with Dean Amenta was originally on the agenda for this meeting, but the Dean was called away and could not attend.

The minutes of the May 22, 2012 meeting were not yet ready for review, so approval was delayed until they are available.

The dissemination of the revised Appointments and Promotions guidelines presented at the May 17 RWJMS Executive Council meeting was discussed. While the Dean requested in May that department chairs begin to discuss the guidelines at departmental meetings, a poll of those present indicated that very few faculty had received notice of the revised guidelines. The question of whether the Faculty Council could distribute the revised guidelines was raised.

Additional questions regarding the guidelines included the timeline for comments, whether the new guidelines are included in offer letters, and grandfathering faculty to the old standards. It was a concern that the requirements for current faculty could change and they would no longer be on track for promotion.

There was a recap of information currently available about the NJ Higher Education Restructuring Act introduced in the NJ state senate on June 5, 2012. The Faculty Council sent a statement to the Senate Higher Education Committee on June 13, 2012 regarding RWJMS faculty support for the merger of RWJMS and RU to proceed in a timely fashion.

It was noted that the current version of the legislation does not directly mention RWJMS and/or its reporting structure within Rutgers, while the legislation specifies reporting structures for various components of Rutgers in northern and southern regions of NJ. Through this discussion, it was decided that the Faculty Council would draft and send a letter to the NJ State Legislature regarding our support of the legislation and belief that RWJMS should report locally to the Rutgers administration in central NJ. The legislators from Central NJ have been silent on this issue.

It was noted that the legislature is considering a bond act for higher education that has specific allocations for different categories of institutions of higher education. The restructuring act designates Rowan University along with Rutgers and NJIT as a Research University.

It was reported that the Salary Policy was revised on June 5, 2012, but has not been widely distributed. The faculty who had seen the revised policy did not think it addressed the questions previously raised regarding compliance with NIH policies.
Bullet points:
The revised A&P Guidelines (draft) should be posted or sent to faculty, especially in light of the numerous departments that did not discuss it.

Attachments: Letters sent to the Senate Higher Education Committee and NJ State Legislature.