

College of Education Faculty Meeting
Oct. 18, 1999

The fall College of Education Faculty Meeting was called to order by Senate Chair Annette Iverson at 3:30 p.m. Chair Iverson introduced the COE Senate Vice-chair, Nadene Davidson, COE Senate Secretary Jody Stone and all COE Senators. These included, Cindy Herndon, Melissa Heston, Chris Macfarlane, Lynn Nielsen, Denise Tallakson, and Michele Yehieli.

The topic for the faculty meeting was a panel discussion on the role of service in the University's Mission. Chair Iverson introduced the panel members. They were:

Dr. Aaron Podolefsky, Provost,
Dr. Tom Switzer, Dean, College of Education
Dr. James Kelly, University Faculty Chair,
Dr. Lyn Countryman, recipient of the Ross Nielsen Service Award

Dr. Podolefsky spoke on Faculty Governance: Past, Present and Future. One aspect addressed by Dr. Podolefsky was service from a citizenship standpoint. In addition, he remarked on how a faculty member's service role tends to change and evolve over one's career path.

Dr. Kelly spoke on Service in the College of Education. He remarked that the service positions one becomes involved in really "say something" about the people in those positions. He raised several key questions for faculty to think about. These questions included: (1) Are our present faculty governance structures still useful? (2) Is our current Senate representation enough to meet our needs? (3) Do incentives exist to encourage the service necessary to serve on the senate and other committees? (4) Are the reward systems still present today to encourage service? (5) How does the senate relate to other parts of the university? (6) How is business conducted? Is it done in a timely fashion? Do faculty members know who their representatives are?

Dr. Lyn Countryman addressed the faculty role of service on an individual level. She emphasized the different levels of involvement, from department to university to state and national association involvement. Team building was stressed as an important aspect in increasing faculty service involvement. She also indicated that name visibility plays a role in both getting elected and appointed to committees. Dr. Countryman reminded those present that we also need to ask ourselves what we can provide for the teachers of Iowa which no one else can provide.

Dean Switzer reviewed how the university's attitude toward service seems to have changed over the past decade. He discussed the ethics of service on campus and in society as a whole. He indicated that with our present system, there was no clear-cut way to discriminate between different degrees of service involvement and that multiple definitions of service were being used.

After these initial remarks, faculty presented concerns and asked a number of questions of panel members. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Jody Stone, secretary