

Faculty Council

12 January 2011

The meeting convened at 2:00 pm with the following Council members present:

Patty Easley	Powell Franklin
Roger James	Donna Johnsey
Andrew Kelley	Carol Norman
Bob Raines	Amy Wake
Kim White	Rob Wyatt

Also in attendance was our invited guest, Dr. Ronald Key, JSCC Provost of Student and Learning Success.

Faculty Council Chair, Carol Norman, reported that many of our colleagues have expressed concerns about the most recent purge, that as many as 1,400 students lost classes and that, when phoned by their instructors-of-record, many of these students had been unaware that they had been dropped from their classes. Dr. Key addressed the issue, promising to make it an agenda item for his newly-established "Provost Leadership Team," which will consist of 22 administrators, faculty, and staff, who will meet every three weeks to discuss items of campus-wide concern. He asserted that this team will solicit feedback from the faculty. Dr. Key, who previous to his most recent post has taught continuously for thirty years, stated, "I've always had a great relationship with faculty," and further averred "the secret to anything is high-level, accurate communication."

Professor Norman shared a statement regarding the recent increase in certain class caps, a circumstance which has elicited some concern among the faculty. Also, in a continued discussion of the ongoing struggle to define the role of the Faculty Council and the status of its constitution, members of the Council shared their concerns about the process. Referring to his previous announcement regarding the Provost Leadership Team, Dr. Key promised to analyze this and other issues of faculty concern and to permit faculty input.

Revisiting a topic he raised during the faculty in-service on Tuesday, 11 January, Dr. Key reiterated the importance of faculty mentoring, especially to at-risk students. He cited a need to get our students "connected" and thus to empower them. He suggested that first-year students and those who test into college-preparatory classes are in the most need of faculty mentoring, and calls on faculty to serve in the capacity of mentors to these students and others who need guidance beyond academic advising.

All items on the agenda addressed, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9 February at 3:15 in the Foundation Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Powell Franklin, Faculty Council secretary