

Council of Chairs Meeting of September 20, 2004
Minutes

Members Present: Janet Adams (HHD), Magnhild Lien(SC&M), William Jennings (B&E), Rie Rodgers Mitchell (EDU), Peter Nwosu (AMC), Sid Schwartz (CECS), Gregory Velazco y Tianosky (HUM), Nathan Weinberg (S&BS), Julio Blanco (SCM)

Substitute Member: Doris Helfer for Michael Barrett (LIB)

Guests: Provost Harry Hellenbrand and Penelope Jennings

1. Nathan Weinberg discussed the statistical analysis and findings of the Chairs Survey. The analysis was conducted by Eileen Ie, a graduate student in the Department of Sociology. About one third of the chairs surveyed indicated dissatisfaction with the responsibilities, issues, and problems faced by chairs.
2. There was an extensive discussion of the Chairs' Survey. As part of the discussion, the executive committee of the council identified several items to be brought to the attention of Provost Hellenbrand, including numerous problems with SOLAR, more realistic deadlines for information requests from chairs, improved communication with chairs, the impact of decentralization on the work load of department staff, and the future impact of YRO (year round operations).
3. Provost Hellenbrand (time certain of 11:00 a.m.) heard and discussed a number of issues raised in the Chairs' Survey. In particular, Provost Hellenbrand recommended that Eric Forbes and Margaret Fieweger meet with the council to discuss problems with SOLAR. Harry Hellenbrand also expressed a willingness to meet with the council periodically.
4. In October, Michael Reagan will be attending to discuss chairs issues for CFA. Vicki Pedone will be attending to discuss GE Task Force issues.