Faculty Welfare Committee  
Academic Senate, Los Angeles Division  

Minutes of Meeting  
January 13, 2003

Present: M. Alkin, Chair; M. Dapretto; S. Ettner; W. Hirsch, R. O’Neill (Ex-officio); R. Schonmann; V. Shetty; S. Stokes  
Absence: A. Coleman; B. Wenzel  
Staff: M. Avila; D. Dang  
Guests: Michael Deluca  
Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 2:10 pm

1. CHAIR’S Updates  
   - Minutes. The minutes of the 12-02-02 meeting were approved as corrected.  
   - Meeting with Sean Banks. Chair Alkin mentioned that Sean Banks, Ombudsperson and Director of the Ombuds Services Office will meet with the committee on February 3rd. Mr. Banks has asked to talk to Chair Alkin before the February meeting to make sure that the FWC understands the limitations of Ombuds Office data and the appropriate use of it.  
   - Academic Calendar. No new developments were reported.  
   - Ground Rent Issue. Last year, the FWC learned that UCLA is the only campus in the UC system at which ground rent is charged and that an agreement was reached with the President’s Office that ground rent would not be paid on future parking structures. In response to questions raised by the FWC, Chair Alkin wrote to Vice Chancellor Peter Blackman requesting a list of parking structures currently under construction and an explanation on whether or not ground rent will be charged on each. In addition, he asked for a list of parking structures in the planning phase (not yet physically under construction) on which there will be no ground rent charged. He has also written Vice President Joe Mullinix for a clarification on the nature of the agreement that was made by UCOP with UCLA related to ground rent. A progress report will be presented at a future meeting.  
   - Phased Employment. This item was added to the Agenda. A draft proposal “Phased Employment/Phased Retirement” was distributed. Chair Alkin asked for comments from FWC members. This proposal will be discussed at UCFW’s January 24 meeting. Comments will be forwarded to Chair Alkin by January 21, 2003.  
   - Professor Review on BruinWalk.com. It was reported that Professor Edward Geiselman from the Department of Psychology had written to Chair Alkin about problems with Professor Reviews on BruinWalk.com. Alkin provided a summary of Geiselman’s concerns. After a brief discussion, the Committee agreed to look into allegations he made about the operators of the website being “fully protected by campus counsel” before any further action is taken on this matter. Chair Alkin also mentioned that the UCLA Faculty Association is meeting on February 7, 2003 to discuss the status of the site any faculty who are interested in this problem can attend the meeting.

2. BLUE CROSS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE  

There was not enough time at the end of the meeting to fully discuss this item. It will return on FWC’s Feb. 3rd Agenda.
3. **BRUINGO ISSUE**

The question of continuing BruinGo has again been raised by Parking and Transportation Services. Apparently, a draft Environmental Impact Report for UCLA’s 2002 Long Range Development Plan states that implementation of the Development will substantially increase traffic congestion and vehicle emissions in Westwood. It also states that continuing BruinGo is not a feasible strategy to mitigate these impacts. There is evidence (substantial data) that Prof. Shoup of Urban Planning has assembled to support the success of the program and its cost-effectiveness as an alternative to building more expensive parking structures. Comments on this development were due by December 20, 2002. The FWC/CPB Parking Subcommittee will continue its discussion of alternatives for funding BruinGo at its next meeting scheduled for January 21.

4. **CONSULTATION WITH MICHAEL DELUCA, DIRECTOR OF UCLA RECREATION, DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. Deluca was invited to meet with the FWC to discuss general concerns that faculty have about access to recreational services on campus. Mr. Deluca reported that several construction projects that will impact yet ultimately benefit recreation services on the UCLA campus are planned over the next several years. Seismic renovations, restoration issues and the explosion in demand for recreational services are the reason for these construction projects.

- Intramural Field/Parking: Summer 2003
- Student Activities Center: Sept. 2001-Aug. 2003
- Student Activities Center Pool Closed June-Sept. 2002; May-Sept. 2003
- Wooden West: Dec. 2002-March 2004
- Wooden North MGSE Conversion: Sept. 2003

In response to questions, Deluca stated that scheduling recreational activities around construction schedules and facility closures has been a special challenge. For example when the Kaufman swimming pool closed last June, their swimming pool programs and activities were absorbed into Sunset Canyon Recreation Center pool schedule. The UCLA Recreation had to share or modify its program offerings to remain open during construction. Another challenge is low membership fees. Deluca distributed a handout “Recreation Membership Fee Comparison”. The handout indicated that UCLA’s faculty and staff rates are lower than the eight other UC campuses and seven other Comparable Institutions. Because the rate is based on a formula that includes the registration fee allotment plus mandatory student fees, the current rates will not increase until student fees are raised.

With respect to pool access, Deluca said that the student activities center pool is reserved for Student-Athlete Training from 6:30 to 10:00. The pool is then open to other users. With the North addition to the Wooden Center, the Center’s hours were expanded and it is now open 110 hours per week.

5. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Committee member Werner Hirsch reported that the Health Care Facilitator Advisory Committee met recently to discuss the following concerns:

- Blue Cross enrollment cards were not mailed to UCLA employees/annuitants at the end of December for January 1, 2003 coverage. Because of this problem, many employees and annuitants could not get the immediate care they needed. This issue was addressed and the cards were mailed after January 1.
• The transfer of information on period of initial eligibility, prescription drugs, and Medicare was not coordinated properly between Aetna and Blue Cross causing also causing problems for people who needed care as of January 1, 2003.

• Due to the lack of coordination between Aetna and Blue Cross, many employees could not obtain their Prescription drugs through mail order. This issue is currently being addressed.

• The biggest complaint reported was access to care and treatment. An idea that could address these problems was raised. The proposal is to establish an online service system where a small panel of physicians could be assigned the goal of talking to patients via the internet about common ailments. A similar system has been implemented at Kaiser Permanente. V. Shetty introduced the idea and agreed to provide more information on the subject that could then be presented to the FLASH Committee for further investigation.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm