

From: "President" <president@wartburg.edu>
To: <faculty-1@wartburg.edu>
Subject: [faculty-1] Memorandum
Date: Thu, 20 Apr 2006 07:58:11 -0500

MEMORANDUM TO THE FACULTY:

The faculty meeting last Thursday was, from my perspective, very productive. For one thing, the importance of process was highlighted and reemphasized. Furthermore, I felt that the spirit of the discussion was very positive.

Over the past several weeks, in addition to the discussions at the faculty meeting, I have had occasion for productive conversations with the Faculty Council, as well as with individual faculty, regarding many of the issues we face together. As a result, I have made the following decisions.

First, I will recommend that the Board of Regents, in May, approve the resolution adopted by the faculty to delay action on the handbook change proposed by the Board, edited by the Faculty Review Committee, and presented at the faculty meeting. This will enable appropriate faculty review before reaching agreement on the final wording to be presented to the Board of Regents in October.

Second, I am putting on hold until fall the search for the Franklin I. and Irene List Saemann Endowed Chair in Multicultural Community Engagement. This will enable the search for such an important position to follow the normal timing for faculty searches and go forward this fall according to the procedures I had announced earlier.

Third, I have asked the Dean to appoint an interim director of the Global and Multicultural Studies Programs. Dr. Janice Yee and Professor Kim Folkers have provided exceptionally good leadership in establishing and directing the GMCS programs over the past 11 years. The entire Wartburg community and hundreds of Wartburg alumni are indebted to them for their leadership and work. By making an interim appointment, it will be possible to have appropriate discussions of how we move forward and further strengthen Wartburg's commitment to multicultural programs.

Fourth, as a result of my conversations with the Faculty Council, beginning with the fall semester, a Faculty Council member will be invited to meet with the President's Cabinet at least once a month or as requested by the Faculty Council. As a result, the Faculty Council can more efficiently bring issues to the Cabinet and gain better insight into the ongoing operation of the College.

Fifth, I will be discussing with the Faculty Council the possibility of expanding their role to include serving as an advisory group to the president regarding administrative issues or how we might work together to establish a process for providing ongoing advice and counsel to the president.

Finally, as we come to the end of Winter Term, I hope you have had another successful term and that you have a restful break.

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