GENERAL FACULTY MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 1997

MINUTES

1. Minutes from the January 24, 1997 General Faculty Meeting were approved as distributed.

2. Dean Kraft noted there were no business items to discuss and a motion was made, and seconded to close the General Faculty Meeting.

GRADUATE FACULTY MEETING
MINUTES

1. Minutes from the January 24, 1997 Graduate Faculty Meeting were approved as distributed.

2. Dean Kraft stated that the Flex MBA is being presented as an informational item. In addition to getting our faculty to approve the program we will need the Graduate Counsel to approve it as well. The Graduate Counsel's deadline is April 1. A special Graduate Faculty meeting will need to be scheduled for March 21 to present the Flex MBA as an action item. Dr. Romano passed out a revised proposal, specifically the first three pages. Dr. Romano presented a synopsis of the proposed program:

   a. The proposal calls for a two run pilot program with an evaluation at the end to see if we want to continue with it.
   b. Each program will last for two years.
   c. The first run will begin May of 1998 and the second run will begin May of 2000.
   d. Each term will consist of eight ten week terms and each term equals two courses.
   e. An international trip is also part of the curriculum.

Dr. Romano stated that the curriculum is much like the AT&T program. The degree should be classified as general. The delivery mechanism is the most controversial element that is primarily via electronic communication, i.e., E-mail, groupware, audio streaming, WWW, video tapes, cd rom technology, etc . . .

Dr. Romano stated that to promote development of good courses, the following suggestions were made within the proposal:

   a. Organization of workshops to bring in experts currently teaching in similar programs.

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He stated that Carnegie Mellon is teaching with this type of format successfully.

b. Awarding faculty development grants to those faculty developing classes. As a part of the development grant, a faculty would provide a presentation of their course proposal for feedback to a committee having expertise on distance education formed and chaired by the Associate Dean.

c. Regular evaluation of the program.

Dr. Romano said that the first round would consist of forty to forty-five students and they have not decided the second round yet. TA’s are budgeted for each course and support staff to develop groupware software. The targeted student profiles are mature individuals with a minimum of four year’s full-time experience and access and familiarity with computer technology. Some discussion took place. We will make adjustments as the program evolves.

A motion was made, and seconded to call a special faculty meeting for March 21, 1997 to present the Flex MBA as an action item.

3. Other business items: The President and the Provost will be presenting their new version of how productivity works in the university and how they will link it to our budget at the next Academic Dean’s Meeting. Dean Kraft will involve the unit heads at the appropriate time.

4. The Graduate Committee approved the following new course and requested that it be presented as an action item. The purpose of the course will be to teach varying topics with the option of S/U grading. A motion was made, and seconded to approve this new course.

- GEB 6930 - Special Topics

A motion was made, and seconded to adjourn the Graduate Faculty Meeting.

Dean Kraft encouraged the faculty to stay for our second PEP lecture presented by Dr. Roger Blair titled “Franchise Tying Suits in the Aftermath of Kodak.”