BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

Meeting of the 2010-11 Faculty Senate
The meeting was held on March 24th, 2011 from 3:00-5:00pm in Shapiro Student Center
Room 313

Present: Bishop, Burt, Garnick, Hall, Herzfeld, Hickey, Meyer, Molinsky, Nandakumar,
Ratner, Rosenberg, vonMering
Absent: Dibble, Flesch, Lichtman, Morrison, Nelson, Parmentier
Guests: Dan Perlman

Approval of Minutes
The Faculty Senate approved the minutes of the February 17 Faculty Senate meeting.

Plans for voting UCC, Reps to BOT, Senate
Voting for faculty representation to the UCC, Representatives to the Board of Trustees
and the Faculty Senate for the 2011-12 Academic Year will need to begin by the end of
the month. This year there will be an on-line ballot that first asks voters to identify by
school affiliation. This will then direct to a page for that school. The idea is to help
faculty avoid voting on representatives from schools of which they are not a part.

UAC formation proposal
The Senators agreed that there needed to be more discussion of the UAC formation if this
body is to take on added responsibilities in the next academic year.

Part Time Tenure Track policy
The members of the Senate felt this policy needed further consideration. They would like
to invite member of CFRR to the next Faculty Senate meeting in May to participate in a
discussion of this issue.

HR/Academic Freedom meeting with Fred Lawrence planned for 4/8/11
The Senate Council met with President Lawrence this week and there was a brief
discussion of the proposed HR policy. The general sense form the Council members
present at the Senate meeting was that Lawrence was supportive of the process put in
place by this policy, but hesitant on the issue of granting the same freedom of speech to
members of the Brandeis Community that is allowed by law at public institutions. There
is a meeting scheduled for April 8th with the Senate Council, members of the HR Policy
Committee and President Lawrence.

The suggestion was made that the issue of process in harassment disputes be separated
from the issue of freedom speech, since it appears that process is the pressing issue that
needs to be resolved.

Dan Perlman: Associate Provost for Assessment and Student Learning
Dan Perlman was invited into the Senate meeting to speak about his new role as Associate Provost for Assessment and Student Learning. Perlman stressed that while it will be necessary for this position to be involved in quantitative analysis of student learning and outcomes, he is also very focused on qualitative assessment and the linkage between assessment and pedagogy. While there are currently student surveys that assess a student’s knowledge and experience from Freshman year to Senior year at Brandeis, Perlman says he is interested in looking at a broader timeline and evaluating alumni five years, ten years, even twenty years after graduation.

The suggestion was made that Perlman consider creating an Office for the Support of Teaching, to aid faculty who are interested in new techniques and methods for their teaching. This could be one way in which assessment can be directly tied to the classroom. Perlman mentioned the learning goals that have been created by each department. He said that his goal over the next couple of years will be to work with faculty who are interested in integrating these departmental, and university wide, learning goals into their classroom.

Another question was raised regarding students who request letters of recommendation to transfer. A suggestion was made that exit interviews should be performed with students who elect to transfer out of Brandeis as a way of assessing potential dissatisfaction and addressing these issues.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.