Faculty Meeting Notes
October 3, 2010 Faculty Meeting
Kit Otto, Faculty Observer

The following are highlights of last month’s faculty meeting (October 3, 2010):

**Question and Answer period:**
Sara Jayne Steen fielded a question on why there was no merit pay for faculty this year (2% increase was deemed too small a pool for merit). One faculty chair commented that it would be helpful to know ahead of time if there is no money for merit, so there would be no need to make recommendations that can’t be met anyway.

SJS confirmed that there has been an issue with student noise and partying in Plymouth neighborhoods this year and that it has been more disruptive than usual. Rick Barth, VP of Student Affairs, reported that a new task force has been set up that includes campus and town police, and community members. Local landlords have agreed (apparently for the first time) to share with PSU the names of their student residents. This enables student affairs to call in students for a face-to-face chat. Barth also mentioned more patrols around campus, more serious sanctions for infractions, and the signs being posted on some lawns to remind students that “a family lives here.”

Nate Obin, PSU Junior gave a presentation regarding having a summer Upward Bound program at PSU, for high school students.

**New Business**
The Frost School Council presented the document, “Policies and Procedures and Protocols for Planning and Conducting Distance Learning at PSU.” In discussion, faculty expressed concerns about having to be “certified” for online education by (non-faculty members in) the Learning Technology and Online Education department. This is not a new policy, and eventually to motion carried to approve the policy document with only minor amendments. During that discussion, Scott Coykendall, the faculty speaker, needed some help in parliamentary procedure; at one moment he quipped that he was only too ready to sing an old song, “Please impeach me, let me go!”

**Upcoming:** the November 3rd Faculty Meeting Agenda includes a motion from the curriculum committee to approve a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.