Minutes, Budget Committee of Academic Senate

Meeting of March 3, 2008 (as approved, April 28, 2008)

Present: Michael McIntyre (chair), Donald DeGracia, Rob Kohrman*, Lou Romano, Linea Rydstedt, and William Volz.

Absent with Notice: James Woodyard.

Absent without Notice: Lothar Spang.

Invited guests: Nancy Barrett, Provost; chairs of unit budget committees, Policy Committee

*Liaison

1. The meeting convened at 11:04 a.m.

2. Report from Chair. The chair presented a summary of the report he prepared showing the allocation of the permanent and one-time money that had not been budgeted in the FY 2008 Budget. The report is available on the committee’s website.

3. Presentation by Budget Director. Robert Kohrman, Budget Director, made a slide presentation dealing with the level of state support for higher education and other matters of relevance in setting the FY 2009 budget. A copy of the slides is expected to become available on the committee’s website. Mr. Korhman indicated that the term “instruction” was not used consistently by the Administration. In one context, it included only amounts spent for faculty salaries, whereas in another context, it included amounts spent to repair and improve buildings used for instruction. The chair suggested that the inconsistency was due to political considerations. The Provost stated her disagreement.

4. Presentation by Provost. The Provost gave a brief summary of the Administration’s plan for using the funds earmarked in the revised budget for instruction. Some participants suggested that this plan was inconsistent with the commitment of the Board of Governors to use the money to support undergraduate programs that had experienced a large increase in enrollment. The chair suggested that the Administration was seeking to reallocate funds from undergraduate education to the School of Medicine.

9. Adjournment. The committee adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Michael J. McIntyre