Minutes, Budget Committee of Academic Senate

Meeting of November 9, 2009 (As approved, March 9, 2010)


Absent with Notice: Donald DeGracia, Rob Kohrman*, Winston Koo, Rita Kumar, Aleksandar Popadic, Louis Romano, William Volz, .

Absence without Notice: Charles Elder, Linea Rydstedt.

Invited guest: Nancy Barrett.

*Liaison

1. The meeting began at 11:00 a.m.

2. Parking. The committee discussed the memo prepared by the chair and circulated in draft form at the last meeting (October 12, 2009). The revised memo went into much greater detail on the lack of consultation that had occurred with respect to parking and provided the administration with the committee’s views on the form of genuine consultation, using parking as an example. After discussion, the memo was adopted unanimously, with a request that the chair sent it to Policy for further action. [Note: The Policy Committee approved the memo unanimously and forwarded it to the Senate, the Administration, and the Board of Governors.]

3. Budget Procedures for School and Colleges. The chair presented a revision of the memo titled “Procedure for Schools/Colleges Budget Reform.” The prior draft had been discussed at length at the last meeting of the committee. After discussion, a consensus emerged that the chair should make some additional revisions in light of the comments made at the meeting.

Under the agreed plan, members of the committee should submit comments, suggested changes, etc., to the chair as soon as possible. The goal was to have an approved version for the Policy Committee in time for its meeting on Nov. 16, 2009. If it appears that agreement within the committee has not been reached, then the chair will call a special meeting of the committee. After making revisions in light of the comments, the chair is to circulate a “final” draft for approval by the committee. The deadline for comments is set at the end of the business day on Wednesday, Nov. 11. The chair indicated that if he receives two or more objections to the draft by 4 p.m. Friday, November 13, 2009, he will call for a meeting on the following Monday. Otherwise, he would treat the revised document as approved. [Note: Since there were no objections and many messages of support, there is no need for a special meeting. The chair forwarded the final draft, as approved, to the Policy Committee. The Policy
Committee approved the memo with some changes in the preamble and forwarded it to the Administration.]

4. **Enrollment Estimates and Strategic Initiatives.** The committee discussed the memo prepared by the chair that raised questions about the Noren Administration’s strategic initiatives. A significant part of the funding for those initiatives is to come from a projected increase in the size of the student body from 31,786 in 2009 to 35,000 in year 2014. The serious budget question is whether this increase is likely to materialize. A general discussion of enrollment issues followed. The chair indicated that Dean Jerry Herron and Budget Director Kohrman had promised to provide the information about the Administration’s enrollment estimates requested in the memo.

5. **Adjournment.** The committee adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Michael J. McIntyre