Minutes, Budget Committee of Academic Senate

Meeting of December 7, 2009 (As approved, March 9, 2010)


Absent with Notice: Aleksandar Popadic.

Absence without Notice: Charles Elder, Winston Koo.

Invited guest: Nancy Barrett, Provost; John L. Davis, Vice President for Finance & Facilities Management; Jerry Herron, Dean, Honors College.

*Liaison

1. The meeting began at 10:30 a.m. The minutes of the meeting of October 12, 2009, were approved without objection.

2. Time of Meeting. After some discussion, the consensus of the committee was that meetings next term would start at 11:00 a.m. unless the chair expected a long meeting, in which case he would schedule the meeting to start at 10:30 a.m.

3. President Noren’s Strategic Initiatives. The chair gave a brief overview of the issues presented by President Noren’s strategic initiatives, based on his memo to the committee on that subject. In general, he noted that the plan assumes revenue streams that are unlikely to materialize, and it does not establish priorities, as it required in any sensible strategic plan. Discussion followed.

   Mr. Kohrman and Dean Herron presented a slide show with some additional information on the projected increase in enrollment over the next 5 years from under 32,000 to 35,000. The slides were prepared in response to a memo from the chair to Dean Herron asking for additional support for the enrollment projects. A lively discussion ensued. It was noted that the new information, although helpful, did not respond fully to many of the issues presented in the chair’s memo. Mr. Kohrman offered to meet with the chair to provide additional information.

4. BOG Matters.

The committee reviewed the materials going to the Board of Governors and had no substantial comments. The chair noted that the Reserve for Non-Recurring Projects now has a balance of over $13 million. The Rainy day fund has a balance of nearly $17 million.

5. Adjournment. The committee adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Michael J. McIntyre