

University Faculty Senate Minutes January 30, 2003

Members present: Bill Abbott, Joanne Ardovini-Brooker, Terry Bilhartz, Leonard Breen, Mary Lynn DeShazo, Mary Gutermuth, Marsha Harman, Jeff Harwell, Penny Hasekoester, Deborah Hatton, Joan Hudson, Ann Jerabek, Joe Kirk, Gerald Kohers, S. Thomas Kordinak, Paul Loeffler, Holly Miller, Valerie Muehsam, Debra Price, Kandi Tayebi, Victoria Titterington, Gene Young

Member absent: Ted Creighton (professional conflict), David Henderson (professional conflict), Tamara Waggener (professional conflict)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for January 16 were approved with emendations.

Chair's Report

Chair Muehsam introduced new Senator S. Thomas Kordinak who replaced Sam Sullivan on the Senate. Chair Muehsam stated that so far there was money for summer grants and that a possible extension of the deadline would be discussed with Dr. Payne. New minimum enrollments for summer classes have been discussed by the administration. Discussion ensued about the problems of developmental classes and graduate classes in departments with few graduate assistants.

Dr. David Payne, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Budget Cuts

Dr. David Payne, Vice President for Academic Affairs, discussed the budget cuts expected for this year. He guaranteed the Senate that the President and his administration believe that academics come first. Academics are the revenue generating and core function of the university. The largest proportion of budget cuts must come from the Division of Academic Affairs. The administration is looking at ways to redistribute the cuts needed. Particular areas that are being considered include the following: summer school, reassigned time, faculty development, out of country travel, hiring freezes, and small classes. Summer school reductions will be done so that departments can decide how to reduce their summer expenditures. Paying professors a flat fee by course for the summer is not an option being explored.

Restructuring

Dr. Payne emphasized that the university must continue to plan for the future. Restructuring the colleges will not take place unless there is a substantial increase in revenue. A piece of the restructuring which can be done without budget implications will take place to help education with their accreditation.

Dr. Payne listed the two main reasons for the restructuring:

1. The College of Arts and Sciences is too unwieldy right now, so the Dean is overwhelmed with work.

2. The College of Education and Applied Sciences is unable to focus on the primary mission of the college.

Dr. Payne was pleased with the responses and e-mails he has received from faculty. He has tried to incorporate the comments into the restructuring plans.

New Business

Senator Loeffler proposed a resolution concerning O&M budgets for academic departments. The Senate voted unanimously to retain the resolution in the records and table it until a later date.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports for University Affairs, Academic Affairs, and Faculty Affairs.

Committees on Committees—Ballot for the Faculty Development Leave Committee was approved unanimously as is.

Respectfully submitted,

Kandi Tayebi, Chair-Elect