

MINUTES OF THE MEETING: April 26, 2010

PRESENT: J. Benedict, J. A. Gomez, S. Herrera, P. Semrau, M. Soldatenko, Y. Song,
M. Wallace, D. Weaver, L. Whitcomb

ABSENT: K. JivanJee, I. Kim, F. Zhou

EXCUSED ABSENCE: K. Karimlou

L. Whitcomb, FiPC Chair, convened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

1. Announcements

FiPC will meet on both the 2nd and 4th Mondays in May, May 10th and May 24th, since Memorial Day falls on the 5th Monday this year.

2. Intent to Raise Questions

None.

3. Liaison Report

M. Soldatenko reported the following items being discussed at the Executive Committee meeting:

- J. Faust, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs – Academic Personnel, met with the Executive Committee to discuss collegiality project, fall faculty day, and other faculty concerns.
- Search for the positions of Dean of Arts and Letters and University Provost.
- Executive Committee's Preliminary Budget Guidelines input to President Rosser.

4. Approval of the Agenda (FiPC 09-11)

M/s/p (J. Benedict) to approve the agenda as submitted.

5. Approval of the Minutes (FiPC 09-10)

M/s/p (D. Weaver) to approve the minutes as submitted.

6. Time-Certain: T. Allison, Dean of Arts and Letters - Fiscal Issues at CSULA

The Committee members shared with Dr. Allison their concerns regarding departmental restructuring in the College of Arts & Letters. Dr. Allison explained to the Committee the split of the Communication Studies Department (*Budget Item 7.4*) was initiated by Faculty members after seeing the fast growing demand for the TV and Film program. Dr. Allison discussed the acquisition of the LDS Church Building by University Auxiliary Services (UAS) and consequent leasing it back to the University. This project will benefit the University, UAS, and the College of Arts and Letters– in particular the Television, Film and Media Studies programs.

The merging of departments to create the Performing Arts Department (*Budget Item 7.3*) is more of an economically driven decision due to current staffing changes such as faculty retirements, lack of administrative support, and department salary funds shortage. It has been estimated that the fiscal benefit of the merger can be estimated at \$100,000 in salary and benefits.

The FiPC members asked for input from Dean Allison on current Academic Affairs and University fiscal matters. Challenges for Academic Affairs under the current budgeting environment were discussed.

7. Budget Items

7.1. College-Level Fiscal Committees

Discussion postponed until receipt of ECST response.

7.2. Budget Process

The Committee members discussed Dr. R. Land, Academic Senate Chair, memo to President Rosser regarding the 2010-2011 Preliminary Budget Guidelines.

7.3. Merging of the Departments of Music and Theater Arts Dance

This item was discussed with Dr. T. L. Allison during the Time-Certain segment.

7.4. Split of the Department of Communication Studies

This item was discussed with Dr. T. L. Allison during the Time-Certain segment.

Although FiPC members had some concerns with the merging process, no formal objections were raised to the Arts & Letters proposals. L. Whitcomb will prepare a response memo to Dr. R. Land, Chair of Academic Senate.

8. Adjournment

M/s/p (D. Weaver) to adjourn at 11:30 a.m.