

Faculty Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2009, 1-3 p.m., SEM II A1105

Call to Order:

Terry Setter (chair) called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Announcements:

- Ellen Shortt Sanchez announced that the Campus Compact on-line faculty engagement survey will go out on Monday, February 2. She encouraged faculty to fill it out.
- Don Bantz announced that Martha Henderson will be the new MES Director starting in the fall and extended a thank you to the hiring committee and to Ted Whitesell for his work as the current MES Director.

Geoduck Student Union update: Geoduck Student Union Representative Josie Jarvis provided the following updates:

- There was a student forum regarding the rifle proposal last week and the GSU followed that up with an informal survey. The GSU is hoping to coordinate with the Police Services Community Review Board to conduct a campus-wide survey via Gateway.
- GSU is conducting fundraising to support Bread & Roses.
- In her role as Washington Student Lobby Liaison, Josie is advocating for the continuation of legislative caps vs. individual institutions having tuition setting authority.
- GSU is still seeking student representatives for campus committees and asked that faculty announce this in their programs.

Budget Presentation, followed by Deans'/Governance Groups Discussion:

Les Purce: Les opened his presentation by indicating that the magnitude of the budget challenges on both a state and national level are not yet clear. This is evident in the budget deliberations happening within the Legislature. The Governor's budget mandates maintaining current enrollment and a 7% tuition increase. The Legislature is currently asking for institutions to prepare 20% budget reduction scenarios in addition to the tuition increase. However, with the information currently available, it appears Evergreen's budget cut will be within the 10-15% range. Currently, each division is working on their 5, 10, 15 & 20 percent budget cut scenarios. This divisional work will be used to formulate an institutional budget. This institutional work will begin in February. Les emphasized that, at this point, no decisions have been made.

Faculty Advisory Panel on the College Budget (FAP):

FAP member Sarah Pederson indicated they have some specific questions they would like faculty to address in the Deans'/Governance Groups discussions that will immediately follow. She indicated there are also other venues for ideas at this point (e.g., Budget website, e-mail FAP, UFE discussion on January 30). FAP member Clarissa Dirks followed to say that the FAP's current work is focused on the Academics budget. She went over the guiding principles and list of potential budget reduction scenarios as outlined in the draft budget scenarios document prepared by the Provost's office. She suggested the FAP is hoping that the discussions to follow would be primarily focused on the draft list of assumptions. A brief discussion ensued, with questions about the availability of other divisions' budget scenarios; potential for changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement; and declaring financial exigency. Additional points were raised regarding the budget scenario presented only offering "elimination" as an option vs. reduction; and the challenge of faculty receiving raises when others are losing their jobs.

FAP members indicated that at the February 11 faculty meeting, the FAP will provide an opportunity for discussion on the scenarios in the Academics proposal. The FAP was thanked for all of their work to date and faculty broke into Deans'/Governance groups to rank the guiding principals.

The next Faculty Meeting will be on February 11, 2009 in SEM II A1105, 1:00-3:00pm..