

**Senior Staff Meeting**  
**March 30, 2009**  
**Meeting Notes**

Attending: Theresa Aragon, Don Bantz, John Carmichael, Art Costantino, Lee Hoemann, Steve Hunter, John Hurley, Les Purce, Todd Sprague, Julie Suchanek, Allen Toothaker, Steve Trotter

**Minutes**

The notes from the previous meetings were approved with one correction. John Hurley expressed a wish for longer minutes.

**Announcements**

- John Hurley said that he sent an e-mail to the campus announcing that cigarette sales would be discontinued in the bookstore. He received several responses, including some threatening responses.
- Todd Sprague reported that the KAOS fundraiser with Amy Goodman at the Capitol Theater was well-attended.

**Legislative and Budget update**

Julie said that the Senate operating budget would be released later that morning and the House operating budget the following morning. The Senate's budget purportedly includes a reduction for higher education that is 62% greater than the governor's proposal. It is not known what tuition level the Senate budget might allow. Senators have expressed concern about the GET program and have talked about holding institutions accountable to the institutional reduction plans that were hastily assembled and presented early in the session. Both chambers hope for floor action on their budgets by Friday or Saturday. Steve Trotter said that the Department of Education is scheduled to publish guidance on spending the stimulus money this week.

**CAB Update**

John Hurley said that construction bids for the CAB project were well within the budget. The next critical variable to be determined for the CAB project will be the bond interest rates available at the time of the sale.

**Enrollment Update**

Steve Hunter reported that spring quarter enrollment is about 150 FTE higher than last year, although the two years are not exactly comparable because the procedure for handling the wait list has changed. For fall quarter, the gap between application for 2008 and 2009 has closed. Applications are running even with 2007. The trend appears to be better than the worst-case scenario that Steve previously presented.

**Difficult Dialogues**

Art Costantino reported on a conversation with Faculty Agenda Committee chair Terry Setter. There may be interest in a faculty resolution supporting free speech. Terry is also interested in considering an off-campus facilitator to work with the campus on open communication. Art will continue to discuss plans with Terry.