

## **Minutes, Budget Committee of Academic Senate**

### **Meeting of September 21, 2009 (as approved Oct. 12, 2009)**

*Present:* Michael McIntyre (chair), George Alchammas\*, Donald DeGracia, Charles Elder, Judy Field, Thomas Killion, Rita Kumar, Rob Kohrman\*, Richard Needleman\*, Charles Parrish, Aleksandar Popadic, Linea Rydstedt, William Volz.

*Absent with Notice:* Winston Koo.

*Absence without Notice:* Louis Romano, Assia Shisheva, Jim Woodyard

*Invited guest:* Nancy Barrett, Provost.

\*Liaison

1. The meeting began at 10:30 a.m. The minutes of the meeting of August 31, 2009, were approved without objection.
2. *Reform of Schools/Colleges Budgets.* The chair described the concerns that had arisen over the proposal contained in the Budget Book to capture unfilled hiring slots in the schools and colleges. He noted that he had made the motion, adopted by the committee at its August 31, 2009, meeting, at the meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Governors (BOG) on September 2, 2009. The chair noted that he had circulated to the committee by email a draft document that would provide for budget transparency without jeopardizing the budgets of the schools and colleges.

An open discussion followed. Several members suggested that the committee should be able to work cooperatively on getting a concrete proposal drafted. Mr. Kohrman and Provost Barrett agreed. At the conclusion of the discussion, the chair indicated that he wished to appoint a subcommittee to revise his draft for presentation at the next meeting of the committee. He agreed to serve as chair, and Profs. DeGracia and Elder agreed to serve as members. Mr. Kohrman offered to provide written comments on the chair's draft.

3. *Department ICR Funds Captured in School of Medicine.* The chair explained that the committee has been hearing persistent reports that the departments in the School of Medicine (SOM) were being forced to relinquish to the dean the ICR funds allocated to the departments under the formula contained in the Budget Book. One member noted that she had a discussion with an administrator in the medical school, who indicated that funds were being recaptured to cover the two percent raise that the Administration had negotiated with the AAUP-AFT. Another member suggested that this claim was at best disingenuous, since the amounts recaptured had no relationship to the modest raises. Other members repeated accounts they had heard of the ICR funds being captured by the dean of SOM. An extensive discussion followed about the financial difficulties of the SOM and the reasons for the dean's

actions. At the end of the discussion, the chair suggested that the committee focus on the issue presented to it by the apparent violation of the BOG's allocation formula. Mr. Kohrman offered to track the accounts of the departments to see if the captures had occurred if the committee provided him with the names of the relevant departments. Prof. Parrish agreed to provide that information to Mr. Kohrman.

4. *Parking.* The chair gave a brief report on the discussion of parking that took place at the BOG's Budget & Finance Committee meeting on September 2, 2009. The committee agreed to take up at its next meeting the drafting of a memo to the Policy Committee expressing its views on consultation in the future on parking fee increases.

5. *Plans for the Academic Year.* The chair suggested that the committee needed to be pro active about its agenda for the coming year, rather than merely responding to the various items being sent to the BOG's Budget and Finance Committee. Provost Barrett suggested that the committee might want to look at the broad themes set forth in President Noren's recent address to the University (available on line at: <http://president.wayne.edu/speeches.php>) giving seven points for action. Several members indicated that they anticipated a difficult budget situation next year because of likely State cuts in the University's budget. The chair indicated that Vice President John Davis had previously agreed to provide early notice of the strategic building projects that would be submitted to the State. With the concurrence of the committee, he indicated that he would ask Mr. Davis to provide a briefing on that topic at the next meeting of the committee.

6. *Adjournment.* The committee adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Michael J. McIntyre