

Minutes, Budget Committee of Academic Senate

Meeting of April 18, 2005 (As approved April 19, 2005)

Present: Stephen Calkins (Chair), Marc Cogan, Robert P. Holley (liaison), Michael McIntyre, Charles Parrish, Frederic Pearson, Louis Romano, Linea Rydstedt, Vishwanath Sardesai, Assia Shisheva, William Volz (liaison), James Woodyard.

Absent with Notice: Ravi Dhar, Harley Tse

1. The meeting convened at 12:25 p.m.
2. The only item addressed during the meeting was the proposed dissolution of CULMA. A report had been prepared by a subcommittee consisting of Michael McIntyre, Vishwanath Sardesai, and Assia Shisheva. Professor McIntyre presented the report and made the following motion:

MOVED, that the Committee adopts the subcommittee's report and recommendations as its own, and concludes that it has no basis on budgetary grounds for objecting to the Provost's recommendations with respect to CULMA.

Professor McIntyre explained that the subcommittee had concluded that this change, whether or not a good idea, was not really a budget issue—if there turn out to be significant negative implications for the budget it will be because important synergies among the different parts of CULMA have been lost, but whether there are such synergies is an issue for others to address.

Animated discussion followed. Some Committee members argued that data was insufficient with respect to enrollment, endowments and fund-raising, and research. Others disagreed, and there was quite detailed questioning. Opponents of the motion also argued that CULMA has started making changes and would have become an improved college had it been left alone.

It was moved and seconded that the subcommittee's report should be amended to delete all references to the CULMA Review Committee Report. Discussion followed. The motion was defeated.

It was then moved and seconded to substitute the following motion: "In view of the fact that adequate data and projections are lacking on certain key budgetary and financial, including general fund, implications of the proposed CULMA reorganization, namely the likely impact on enrollment and therefore tuition income, the likely impact on existing and planned fund-raising and endowment initiatives, and the likely impact on research and service grants and contracts, the Budget Committee lacks the basis for a reasonable and informed assessment of the reorganization proposal at this time."

It was argued that detailed plans were lacking and that some CULMA faculty are unhappy about the proposal. Others likened the change to the merging of the colleges of science and liberal arts: the budget issues, as such, are only modest. The motion to substitute failed, 2-6.

It was moved and seconded that the report should be amended to begin with a preamble along the lines of the motion to amend ("Although the Committee is lacking adequate date\ a and projections . . ."). That motion was defeated, 2-7.

With the main Subcommittee motion now on the floor, further discussion ensued. The Subcommittee motion passed, 8-2.

Thereafter, it was suggested that the chair forward to Policy the email exchange between Professors McIntyre and Pearson, which sets out Professor Pearson's concerns. With the consent of those two individuals, the chair agreed to do so.

3. *Adjournment.* The committee adjourned at 2:30 p.m.