

Minutes, Budget Committee of Academic Senate

Meeting of April 19, 2005 (Approved June 7, 2005)

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

Absent with Notice: Ravi Dhar, Charles Elder, Michael McIntyre, Linea Rydstedt

1. The meeting convened at 2:00 p.m.

2. *Board of Governors Budget Committee.* An animated discussion ensued concerning the Board materials. Comments on the power generation issue were very positive, although a member suggested that it would be desirable to have a report on the steam generator that was installed next to the Physics Building some years ago, in order to gain information about WSU's management of power generating facilities. Concern was expressed, however, relating to the proposed laboratory renovations of Scott Hall. Specifically, several committee members expressed the view that there had been a lack of planning, and that what was really needed was not renovations but a new medical research building. It was noted that the Budget Committee had previously recommended that the University's capital priorities should be (1) a new medical research building, and (2) an undergraduate teaching building, and no progress seems to be being made on either front. It was pointed out that the medical school is searching for a new dean, and it was thought likely that a commitment to a new research building would help in recruiting.

The Committee asked Lou Romano to attend the Board committee meeting in place of Charles Elder, who is unable to attend.

3. *Bioengineering Center.* A subcommittee consisting of Harley Tse and Linea Rydstedt had prepared a report on the rechartering of the Bioengineering Center. Professor Tse presented the report. It was:

MOVED, that the Committee adopt the subcommittee's report as its own and present it to Policy, and recommend the rechartering of the Bioengineering Center for the usual full period.

The motion was seconded. It was noted that this is an unusual center in that the funding is entirely external; the Center attracts more than \$2 million in grants. The motion passed unanimously.

4. *Minutes.*

The minutes of the meeting of April 18, 2005, were presented. It was moved and seconded that they be adopted. Motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the meeting of February 28, 2005, were presented. It was moved and seconded that they be adopted. Motion passed unanimously.

5. *Cohn-Haddow Center.* A subcommittee consisting of Stephen Calkins had prepared a report on the rechartering of the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies. Professor Calkins presented the report and discussion was ensued. Although the Center's endowment (not held by the University, but apparently accessible by the Center) provides substantial support, some concern was expressed about the lack of data on fund-raising. Also, several members of the Committee suggested that the Center should be encouraged to fulfill its director's intention to do more to "highlight the research mission of the Center" (rechartering proposal p. 4).

With the understanding that the report would be slightly revised and recirculated on a negative option basis, it was moved that the Committee adopts the subcommittee's report and recommends the rechartering of the Cohn-Haddow Center for the usual full period. The motion passed unanimously.

6. *Fraser Center.* A subcommittee consisting of Frederic Pearson, with input from Charles Parrish, had prepared a report on the rechartering of the Douglas A. Fraser Center for Workplace Issues. Professor Pearson presented the report and discussion ensued. It was noted that the Center's endowment of more than \$2 million provides substantial support, which tends to protect the general fund. On the other hand, some members suggested that the Center is not accomplishing as much as it might, given its level of overall funding. It was also noted that the Center's web site needs substantial attention.

With the understanding that the report would be revised more clearly to recommend greater attention to increased research grants and also improved reporting of activities and accomplishments on the web site, it was moved that the Committee adopts the subcommittee's report and recommends the rechartering of the Douglas A. Fraser Center for Workplace Issues for the usual full period. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *Adjournment.* The committee adjourned at 3:25.