

Minutes of February 6, 2013 meeting of the Facilities, Support Services and Technology Subcommittee

Present: J. Whittum-Hudson, T.R. Reddy, D. Madigan, J. Sawasky, T. Bray, D. Golodner, J. Withey, I. Avrutsky, G. Saydain

Two items were discussed, (1) the commitments and costs of repairs, renovations, moving equipment between buildings, and (2) JWH summarized the combined Budget-FSST Committee meeting with Rick Nork and others about the capital outlay plans. These issues both bring to the forefront the lack of faculty consultation before action plans which will have potential negative impacts on the research mission of faculty across campus (item 1 and 2), and of great importance to students, faculty and above including the State legislature, the impacts on delivering the best educational environment to our large undergraduate student population (item 2).

Regarding (1): Ivan Avrutsky drafted a memo to Rick Nork which the committee felt should be sent also to the OVPR (Hilary Ratner) and the President. The memo requested serious attention to the costs incurred without faculty input, and apparently inadequate bids on projects. For instance, a cutoff of \$25,000 seems to be in place now but we respectfully request consideration of bids being required at a threshold of \$5000 and these should be shared with affected faculty who will be held to some commitment of funds to cover processes. Faculty should be given a list of approved vendors. We need clarification on the reason for a 25% 'tax' for project management. This seems a conflict of interest because the more expensive the project (to the faculty member and school/college/center) would be to the benefit of Facilities. FSST members recommend that this issue be discussed at the Research Committee. The memo sent to Mr. Nork is appended here.

(2) A revised list of prioritized items was discussed at the combined meeting and JW-H reported the major points. The committee members who were unable to attend are referred to the minutes of the January 28, 2013 meeting found on the Budget Committee site of the Academic Senate <http://sun.science.wayne.edu/~senate/index.html> Major recommendations made by Budget Committee members were to form committees with faculty to discuss needs in State Hall and the science laboratories to enhance the educational experience of our undergraduates and to be realistically based on projected enrollments over the coming years (in decline at this time). The need for careful prioritizations of projects based on need and costs was emphasized by Chair Michael McIntyre.

The FSST meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Whittum-Hudson, Chair FSST Committee