Senate Budget Committee Minutes
April 24, 2008
3:05 – 3:35 p.m.

Present: Amber Amari, A. Faye Borthick, Jeremy Crampton, Lynda Goodfellow, Hugh Hudson, Susan McCombie, Bill Prigge, Mark Reed, Rose Sevcik

Dr. Hudson began the meeting by distributing two sheets, “FY2009 New Funding Requests” and “Potential Encumbrances/New Income for FY ’09.” This meeting serves as the organizational meeting for next year’s budget committee.

Election of Chair (Hugh Hudson) The floor was opened for nominations. Dr. Hugh Hudson was nominated and elected chair of the Budget Committee. Dr. Hudson requested that committee members begin considering whom they would like to serve as Vice President of the Committee, to be voted on in an upcoming meeting. This will likely be Dr. Hudson’s last year serving as chair of the committee.

Report on FACP (Hugh Hudson) Dr. Hudson continued the meeting with a detailed explanation of the spreadsheets distributed at the beginning of the meeting. The Budget Committee has made three funding recommendations to FACP over the years: (1) increasing the hiring of tenure-track faculty, (2) increasing graduate assistant stipends, (3) addressing problems of salary compression. Dr. Hudson described the spreadsheet “Potential encumbrances/new income for FY ’09” as follows:

- Library ‘made whole’: This addition would give a budget to the new Dean of Libraries and stop the current practice of using end-of-year funds to fund the library.
- QEP start up costs: This is part of SACS accreditation and will include writing-focused, small classes.
- GA stipends: $425,000 is a targeted enhancement focused on grantsmanship and productivity.
- Salary Compression: Faculty compression is a special Board of Regents grant that is mandated. Staff compression is money that FACP has allocated.
- 1% budget increase for colleges and VP areas: This is the maximum increase that would happen if a number of budgetary negatives occur.

Dr. Hudson continued by explaining the New Funding Requests spreadsheet. He then suggested that the committee form a sub-committee to write a formal report for the Senate. This formal report would look at the last four to five years and examine recommendations made by the Budget Committee and actions taken by FACP in light of these recommendations. He hopes this report will serve as encouragement to the future President and Provost to work collegially with the Committee as the current process works very well.

Dr. Hudson concluded the meeting by charging committee members to consider a vice president for the committee as well as committee members for the Senate report.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm.