Ad Hoc Committee of Chairs
MINUTES
April 29, 2003


Members absent: Martin Fraser, Charles Jones, Ramona Matthews, Joe Rau, Sally Wallace.

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m. by John de Castro, chair. The first item of business was the approval of March 18th minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.

Dr. de Castro introduced the first agenda item which was a discussion of an ad hoc committee proposed by Joan Carso. It would be composed of APACE and Research Committee members, although, some other committees may want to get involved later on in the process. It would be a committee that looks at institutional effectiveness and develops performance indicators. The indicators could be used later to justify the dismantling of programs if the economy continues to be bad. The chart of performance indicators that was distributed with the call to the meeting was discussed. Benchmarking to other institutions will provide useful data. Comparing academic programs was discussed.

The next item was a discussion of the Senate committee structure. Dr. de Castro stated that the area of instruction could benefit by having a Senate committee oversee it. Another suggested committee would be one on evaluations. This committee could handle administrator evaluations, program review, and administrative review. The current Administrative and Support Unit Review Committee was discussed. Basil Mattingly suggested that an organizational chart be done of the current Senate structure and each committee’s duties.

Fenwick Huss distributed a proposal to change the structure of the Fiscal Advisory Committee to the President. He summarized his proposed membership and gave his rationale for these changes. The proposed committee would need to be flexible like the current FACP is. The floor was opened for discussion. It was agreed that the larger a committee gets, the more time it takes to move business. It was suggested that the Deans Group be codified in the Senate Bylaws. The parliamentarian procedure for making changes to the Senate structure was discussed. Don Reitzes remarked that there should be some Senate oversight of the SACS review process.

It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed from this group to examine and develop a proposal regarding changing the Senate structure. It would be more efficient to have a small group review this topic and make recommendations to the full (sub)committee. The following agreed to serve on this subcommittee: John de Castro, John Newman, Don Reitzes, C. Tai, and Murray Brown. John Newman suggested that Senators be notified that this review is going on rather than have faculty think that this is being done in secret.

There was a brief discussion about next year’s Senate. Some committees will be electing new chairs. Presently, the Nominations Committee is currently working on the committee assignments for 2003-2004.

There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone,
committee assistant