

College Council
May 10, 2007

Members present: Bob Baldwin, Siv Serene Barnum, Sheila Broderick, Sonya Christian, Andrea Newton, Jim Salt, Mary Spilde, Craig Taylor
Unable to attend: Dan Dawson, Happi Matthews, Dan Timberlake

March 8 notes were approved.

Reports

Executive Team discussion centered on two items: use of the Center for Meeting and Learning and campus safety after the Virginia Tech tragedy. The CML question is whether it is cost effective to allow an organization to meet weekly.

LCCEF – Robin Geyer has resigned from Facilities Council. Bob Baldwin will fill the vacancy temporarily.

Proposed Policy Revisions

No comment or action on the Sexual Harassment policy. Kate Barry will be invited to a second reading to identify the changes in this revision of existing policy.

Consensual sexual or romantic relationships – Discussion Points:

- The Diversity Council has reviewed this policy but did not reach consensus.
- How are “romantic” and “oversight responsibilities” defined?
- Mandated reporting violates privacy rights.
- Reporting is necessary when there is no alternative solution to removing the conflict of interest.
- What criteria would a manager use to approve steps identified to remove a conflict of interest?
- Does the solution provide adequate protection for the student, the instructor, and the college? (criteria)
- Why is “romantic” included?
- “Romantic” is included to cover flirtatious, non-sexual actions that give one party advantage over another.
- The Preamble is policy. The remaining text is procedure.

College FY08 Budget Proposals

The budget development process calendar calls for a February review and assessment of budget recommendations with regard to established budget principles and criteria, followed by public meetings for comment on the recommendations. This was to have happened before proposals were presented

to the Board of Education budget committee. Due to the full workloads of everyone involved, that timeline is skewed beyond reach. How does the council wish to proceed?

Discussion Points:

- Although College Council was well-represented on the Budget Review Group, that group did not discuss the additional proposals from the Executive Team
- An open meeting to review each proposal and provide an opportunity to ask questions is still possible. It should happen before the next budget committee meeting, May 23, in order to have an impact.
- Consensus would be difficult if not impossible. Most of the proposals are politically charged.
- Even though the budget committee has received the president's recommendations, it would be better to have the open meeting as was reported to constituencies. We can still influence the budget committee.
- A hybrid model may be possible – a review of those proposals not related to bargaining with a focus on fulfilling the council's role in budget development.
- Even a regular CC meeting (instead of an announced special open meeting) will produce more contention than added value. Instead, the council should meet after July 1 to review the entire budget process.
- An open meeting now will become an effort to save programs.
- Not all CC members have a college-wide perspective and may be influenced by convincing arguments to support or reject specific proposals.
- Some budget committee members begin with the same lack of perspective and may also be persuaded to question the recommendations
- The exercise alone is valuable – to develop fluency in mapping criteria.
- The council would be remiss in its duties if we do not map the proposals with principles and criteria.
- The time for people's best thinking is in unit planning.
- By budget law, the proposals have been handed to the budget committee. However adjustments to how we arrive at the bottom line can come later. It may be more advantageous to tie viable trade-offs to FY09 decisions.
- Meeting in the summer to review the budget process would mean that most faculty and students would not have voice.
- An effective planning process is a year-round undertaking.
- A summer review would shape council assessment which we could then share at fall in-service.

Members voted unanimously to meet near the end of this academic year to review the budget development process.

Members voted unanimously to recognize that:

The budget process has moved to the budget committee,

**The budget committee will hear public comment at the next meeting,
May 16, and
The College Council will review the budget development process.**

Mary Spilde will communicate this decision to the college community.

Budget Development Subcommittee

The subcommittee will address the question of what will happen if the college realizes more revenue than anticipated from the state funding formula.

Governance Subcommittee

The list of college policies and procedures, along with a preliminary assignment of each, has not yet gone out to governance councils.

Salt will distribute a draft Governance Assessment Process via email to council members. Feedback will inform revisions to an assessment survey to be launched fall term 2007.

Meeting adjourned: 3:45 pm

Recorder: Mary Bolton