

College Council
May 19, 2006

Present: Bob Baldwin, Siv Serene Barnum, Sheila Broderick, Jet Eccleston, Marie Matsen, Bob Mention, Andrea Newton, Jeremy Riel, Jim Salt, Mary Spilde, Craig Taylor

Unable to attend: Sonya Christian

1. Review Agenda

Revisions to the Student Affairs Council Strategic Plan language - added as item 5.b.

Salt acknowledged that the agenda needs to be sent out further in advance and will work on that.

2. Review Meeting Notes from Previous Meetings

April 25, 28, May 5 minutes

Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes as revised.

3. Reports

The Executive Team has mainly been cleaning up budget items and working out the next steps in carrying out budget changes.

ASLCC will be transitioning in the next few weeks as new officials take office. Eccleston and Riel will continue on College Council until graduation. If meetings are held in the summer, the new board members will attend.

Management Senate met today and will have representatives for the next year to start July 1. They are planning a forum for managers to discuss the budget process and workload issues.

LCCEF continues to work with the administration on the contractual side of the budget reductions. Representatives are being recruited for the Diversity Council and the Finance Council, and replacements will be made by the end of this year. They are also having dialogue about the governance system in its entirety.

LCCEA is in the middle of the nomination process for president and secretary positions. Elections will be at the end of this month. The association is working with the College to assess the amount of reassignment time for faculty on councils. The council representatives were surveyed on how many hours they serve in positions. With some individual variations, the results were consistent with the amount of reassignment time that had been provided in the original memorandum of agreement. The Learning Council stood out as more work than other councils for regular members. Proposals have been made to the college to make some revisions to reassignment time. Appointments for next year have not been made formally, pending those revisions.

4. Review Pending College Council Work

A couple of changes have been made. Council decided to do the rest of work first, and review if there's time.

5. Discussion/Action Items

A. Facilities Council Proposals

During a first reading of the proposals, Matsen explained the Design and Construction, Energy Conservation, and Recycling policies.

A second reading will be held at the next College Council meeting.

B. Student Affairs Council Revisions

A first reading of the revisions was held.

The first revision read:

"Develop a systematic process that provides students regular and convenient opportunities to share their course-related learning experiences each term with their instructors and fellow students."

The second revision read:

"Increase international student enrollment utilizing existing resources."

It was suggested to use the word "within" instead of "utilizing," and "available" instead of "existing."

A second reading will be held at the next meeting.

6. Subcommittee Reports and Discussion

A. Budget Development Subcommittee

FY07 Budget Process Review

The Council reviewed the budget process to identify improvements for the next process.

What worked:

The entire campus community was included by way of department meetings to bring information to VPs and AVPs.

More people understood that this is an evolutionary and difficult, complex process.

Employees appreciated the weekly input meetings with Mary.

The all-staff meeting informed college employees.

There wasn't the backlash that we experienced during the last round of budget cuts.

What did not work:

The body looking at the highest level of data (College Council and the Budget Committee) really never had anything but the proposed cuts. Having only the cuts made generating alternatives difficult.

More time should have spent communicating how items fit together, i.e. here's what we needed to do and the line items were how we got there. College Council was at a disadvantage for just seeing the reduction proposals instead of looking at the whole package.

The process needs to be more than just data oriented. In the future, a deeper understanding is needed of how everything connects.

Make sure that people know what the steps are and how the decision will be made.

A lot of staff feel that it was just a small group of people who made the decision and that they didn't have a lot of ability to give input before decisions were made.

The communication system needs significant development.

The criteria were improved but the process still needs work.

The connection between criteria and cuts and department recommendations and cuts needs to be clearer. Some departments couldn't see the connection.

Once the cuts were on the table, Council members were not willing to challenge them. It is unclear what College Council and the Budget Committee contributed.

It's clear that programs and faculty positions may be considered next year; we need a different process.

We need a process that is dynamically focused on revenue growth, and that work needs to be integrated with the budgeting system.

We need to have a continuing process of assessing true costs of programs and divisions.

We don't want to give the impression that no time was taken to ask people their concerns.

Departments are saying: we recommended one thing and got another.

If employees don't participate, they are giving the power away.

At some point classified was made the focus, and we weren't sure when or how that happened.

It's good that there was opportunity for public comment, but it should have been done sooner.

The governance system should have a sense of how cuts are being handled within the union contracts.

B. Governance Subcommittee

College Council Review of College Policies

The policies listed on COPPS need to be reviewed and assigned to a governance council. The Council looked at a sample of the policies. It was agreed that Salt and Spilde will begin this work and then get a subcommittee together of chairs and vice chairs of the other councils.

Governance assessment plan

Spilde announced that a plan is being designed for all councils to evaluate themselves. Chairs and vice chairs will be invited to a meeting before the end of the term.

C. Planning subcommittee

The Planning subcommittee has met and has put together task goals on unit planning. They have suggested some different formats; some complaints are that unit plans are directed toward instructional units and don't fit as well in student services. They are suggesting that the general plan be approved for two or three years at a time and have some specific funds be evaluated for yearly funding, such as the Technology Fee and Carl Perkins funds.

7. Future meeting schedule and agenda

Future agenda items included a second reading of the Student Affairs revisions and the Facilities Council proposals.

Meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Recorder: Donna Zmolek