

College of Arts & Sciences
Budget Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Friday, February 12, 2010

Present:

Voting members: Professors Susan Glosser, Niko Loening, Todd Lochner, Jens Mache and Heather Smith.

Ex-officio: Julio de Paula - Dean of the College, Jane Hunter - Associate Dean of the College and George Battistel - Associate Vice President of Finance.

Guests: Robert Nayer - Director of Operating and Capital Budgets and Lyndsey Romick – Substitute Student Representative.

Recorder: Anne Boal - Dept. of Mathematical Sciences

The minutes from the January 29th meeting were approved as written.

The Board of Trustees will meet next week and will consider approval of the proposed budget for 2010-11.

Chair Lochner shared some suggestions from some faculty members. One suggestion is for higher paid faculty and administrators to take a salary cut. Another suggestion would be to funnel some of our overseas programs students through programs already set up in other colleges, instead of through Lewis & Clark overseas programs.

Dean de Paula replied that progress has been made on reducing the cost of some of our overseas programs that use other venues, so that they are more cost-effective. Members noted that many of the Co-leaders of overseas trips are student leaders, who are only paid a nominal salary. Professor Glosser would like to investigate CET overseas programs, which she believes would be less expensive than the LC programs, because it wouldn't require us to send our own staff and faculty with the students.

Dean de Paula delivered a message from some exempt staff and faculty in CAS who are concerned that the exempt staff in CAS do not have a voice, as a group, for their budgetary concerns. They sincerely believe that this committee does not address their needs. Dean de Paula believes that it would be helpful to open lines of communication with exempt staff.

There was a discussion regarding the relationship between the exempt staff and this committee. The committee members agreed that it would not be appropriate nor helpful to everyone, for exempt staff to become voting members of this committee.

Dean de Paula said that some exempt staff would like to create their own budgetary advisory committee to the Dean. This committee does not see it as their place to agree or disagree with this idea. Dean de Paula and Associate Dean Hunter agreed that the exempt staff considers this committee to have power and cares what the committee thinks.

Chair Lochner believes this committee looks out for everyone in CAS, not just the faculty, even though there is a perception among some exempt staff that it does not. The committee is willing to talk with them about their concerns and about the BAC's purview and processes.

The committee discussed a recent article about budgetary cuts at Dartmouth College, and if their model would be helpful for us to look at.

Chair Lochner proposed polling the student body on their budgetary priorities and trade-offs, before we assume we know what the students value.

Mr. Battistel explained why it is cost effective to wait awhile before refinancing the debt. They will try to refinance by June 2011.