

College of Arts & Sciences
Budget Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 19, 2010

Present:

Voting members: Professors Cliff Bekar, Rachel Cole, Susan Glosser, Todd Lochner and Jens Mache

Ex-officio: Jane Hunter – Interim Dean of the College, Gary Reiness - Associate Dean of the College, George Battistel - Associate Vice President of Finance.

Guests: Carl Vance - Vice President for Business & Finance and Robert Nayer - Director of Operating and Capital Budgets and student representative - Christabel Escarez

Recorder: Anne Boal - Mathematical Sciences

Professors Cliff Bekar will chair this committee for the Spring Term.

Mr. Vance spoke with the committee about the proposed salary pools and other aspects of the draft 2011-12 budget. The Executive Council will meet later today and further discuss the draft budget.

Interest rates for municipal bonds have increased in the past two months. Pending Board approval, the business office hopes to refinance most of the college debt to fixed rate bonds in February.

Dean Hunter assured the committee that the college is committed to maintaining the faculty/student ratio, and is not looking to eliminate tenure-track positions. However, the college has not resolved how to respond to the Senior Lecturer and Instructor positions that will be vacated as a result of the VESP program. Even with the tenure-track professor positions, there will be short-term savings because of the need to hire adjuncts for one year and subsequently hire new professors at a lower rate of pay than the retirees.

Mr. Vance reported that the college is proposing discontinuing the Northwest Independent College Tuition Exchange over 4 years. This is just a small exchange among 5 Northwest colleges. However because of the terms of the exchange, at this time Lewis & Clark can only export students to Willamette University, and not any other colleges in the exchange. So this exchange program has not been very beneficial to LC employees.

Dean Hunter distributed the summary of a survey, completed by Sibson Consulting, on LC faculty salaries compared to a comparable group of schools. Some of the colleges on this list of schools were considered quite aspirational. Professor Bekar will analyze their methods and results, plus compare the data to previous studies on faculty salaries completed by this committee in past years.