

## **SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

November 27, 2007  
2:30 pm.

Senate Conference Room  
140 McFall Center

**Present:** Keith Bernhard, Nora Engebretsen, Gary Lee, Johnnie Lewis, Ben Muego, Nancy Orel, Patrick Pauken, Peter Pinto, Jeannie Sabaroff, Ellen Williams, Rich Hebein

**Absent:** Alden Craddock

**Guest:** Sherideen Stoll, VP for Finance and Administration

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Senate Chair Pauken called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm. and said that, if there were no objections, he would re-order the agenda to accommodate the guest.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Problems with FMS and Grants Administration**

Pauken thanked Stoll for her participation in the Open Forum. SEC invited Stoll to discuss recent problems with FMS and related matters. Stoll reported that as with any new system problems of implementation would occur and need to be addressed. She said that personnel turnover in her office compounded the problem as they were all trying to learn the new system. She said that they became aware that there was a problem with indirect cost recovery from grants, that it has been corrected. She also acknowledged that the restricted accounts receivable system was very behind and that they were bringing it up to date.

Lee thanked her for the information and for her attention to the problems. He said that it was not widely known that the problems were being addressed. He said that some Principal Investigators were being harassed by vendors. Stoll admitted that her office was understaffed in some areas and that some personnel needed further training to work with PeopleSoft.

Williams said that grant writers were reluctant to write grants because of the added administrative responsibilities with FMS. Lee pointed out that compliance and accountability, which used to be handled by secretaries, now have to be handled by the PIs and that they are reluctant to do it. Stoll pointed out that grants accounting requires a very specialized set of skills and that the staff needed further training.

It was suggested that Stoll get out a newsletter to acknowledge the problems and to explain how they were being addressed. She invited people to tell her what their problems are with as much specificity as possible, and she would see that the problems are dealt with.

Pauken thanked her for her time with SEC.

#### **Charter Violation**

SEC went into closed session to continue its discussion of an alleged violation. The results of this discussion will be transmitted to the parties as required by Charter.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Report on Formation of +/- Grading Committee**

Pauken asked for the names of two students for the committee. He acknowledged that the implementation of any changes might not be possible for Fall 2008.

### **Response to the State's Master Plan**

Provost Baugher had asked SEC for a response to Chancellor Fingerhut's draft of the state's Master Plan. Williams and Pauken solicited comments from SEC and CAA; they will finalize their draft and forward it to Baugher.

## **SENATE AGENDA**

Pauken announced that the survey of faculty on budget priorities that was conducted by CAA last spring would be on the agenda of the December meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Hebein, Secretary