

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate

Minutes of the Meeting of January 22, 2008

Toepfer Room, Adelbert Hall

Members present

Jay Alexander	Jerold Goldberg	Carol Musil
Cynthia Beall	Julia Grant	Sena Narendran
Nabil Bissada	Elizabeth Kaufman	Eric Neilsen
John Blackwell	Uziel Landau	David Poerschke
Christine Cano	Bill Leatherberry	Joseph Prah
Joseph Carter	Kenneth Ledford	Alan Rocke
Susan Case	Sana Loue	Paul Salipante
Stanton Cort	Charles Malemud	Benjamin Schechter
David Crampton	David Matthiesen, Chair	Glenn Starkman
William Deal	Vincent Monnier	Philip Taylor
Dave Diles	Diana Morris	Whitney Tice
Steven Garverick	Roland Moskowitz	Elizabeth Tracy
		Susan Zull

Members absent

Kathryn Adams	Dominique Durand	Kathryn Mercer
Jeffrey Alexander	Thomas Frank	Shirley Moore
Keith Armitage	Faye Gary	Ronald Occhionero
Olivier Arnoult	Marion Good	Sandra Russ
Robert Bonomo	Christine Hudak	Joram Sawady
Shami Chogle	Kathleen Kash	Barbara Snyder
John Clochesy	Lawrence Krauss	Rhonda Williams
Robert Davis	Jacqueline Lipton	Terry Wolpaw
Mark DeGuire	Judith Lipton	

Others present

Christine Ash	Dean Patterson	Chris Sheridan
Donald Feke	Timothy Robson	
Cleve Gilmore	Charles Rozek	

Call to order

Professor David Matthiesen, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

Approval of minutes

Upon motion, duly seconded, the minutes of the Faculty Senate meeting of December 18, 2007 were approved.

Provost's announcements

Interim Provost Jerry Goldberg noted that President Snyder is currently in the midst of a series of visits to alumni groups across the country. He thanked faculty for the amount and quality of work they have done with regard to the strategic planning process, and provided a brief status report. All schools and the steering committee have responded to the five questions posed in the survey designed to elicit input from the campus community, and information is being exchanged. This information will be distilled, and used to articulate the university's goals, priorities and strategies. In early February, there will be "town hall" meetings for faculty and staff, and a preliminary strategic plan will be presented in late February. That process will repeat with several iterations as the final plan is being developed. Professor Goldberg mentioned that 300 faculty have taken responsibility for specific tasks related to the strategic planning effort, and that 2,600 people responded to the survey. He reminded the Faculty Senate of the need to establish "lofty goals," and to also devise basic, concrete steps for reaching those goals.

Chair's announcements

Professor David Matthiesen, Chair of the Faculty Senate, reminded Senators of the Academic Happy Hour scheduled for February 1 at 3:30 p.m. in Thwing Ballroom. He also drew Senators' attention to a notice in a recent "Case Daily," which invites suggestions for a speaker for the 2009 commencement.

Student Information System update

Professor Jay Alexander, past Chair of the Faculty Senate and the Senate's representative to the SIS steering committee, introduced Mr. Jack George, Enterprise Resource Planning projector director. Mr. George provided background information on efforts to improve the system, noting that a group of approximately 30 people have been working on this project since June 2006. Mr. George's presentation focused on the SIS' impact on faculty, including on-line class rosters, on-line grading, and enhancements to the advising system. He responded to questions and comments, stressing key dates for the "roll out" of various aspects of the new system.

Report from the Secretary of the Corporation

Jeanine Arden Ornt, Vice President and General Counsel, and Secretary of the Corporation, reported on the January 16 Board of Trustees' Executive Committee meeting. At that meeting, the establishment of several endowment funds was approved; Ms. Ornt noted that cash and attainment figures are at the highest level in the university's history. Hossein Sadid, VP for Finance and Administration, provided a financial report, and informed trustees that the university is implementing a "hard close" at the end of every second quarter, which will provide more information and focus for the annual year-end close. Ms. Ornt concluded her report by announcing that the Board of Trustees will consider a resolution to enter into the silent phase of a capital campaign at its February meeting.

Report from the Executive Committee

Professor Glenn Starkman, Chair-elect of the Faculty Senate, reported on the January 18 Executive Committee meeting. At that meeting, the committee accepted the report from the “*ad hoc* Committee to Consider the Relation Between Tenure and Salary,” co-chaired by Professors Sandra Russ and Jim Kazura, which states: “We suggest that this issue be re-considered when the university’s financial recovery plan is accomplished in FY 2011.” The Executive Committee also discussed a proposal to address the current shortage of classroom space. This topic was tabled for further consideration at the committee’s February meeting.

Report from the Committee on Graduate Studies

Professor Charles Rozek, Dean of Graduate Studies, presented proposals for new academic programs, which have been vetted and unanimously approved by the Committee on Graduate Studies and unanimously endorsed by the Executive Committee. The first proposal, from the Weatherhead School of Management, is for an Executive M.S. degree Program in Positive Organization Development and Change (EMPOD). This program is a collaborative effort between the Weatherhead School and the ESADE Business School in Barcelona, Spain. Professors Susan Case and Eric Neilsen responded to questions. There was one opposing vote, and no abstentions; the motion to approve this program passed.

The second proposal, for three new graduate degrees developed for foreign lawyers, came from the School of Law. Professor Peter Gerhart responded to questions regarding the proposed Master of Laws in Intellectual Property, Master of Laws in International Business, and Master in Legal Institutions. The motion to approve these programs passed unanimously. In addition, a recommendation that the Faculty Senate require a statement of support from the appropriate dean for all such proposals in the future was noted and approved.

Report from the Budget Committee

Professor Kenneth Ledford, Chair of the Faculty Senate Budget Committee, stated that the Budget Committee has met twice since the last Senate meeting. He focused his remarks on the January 16 meeting; those remarks are appended to these minutes. At that meeting, Charles Rozek reported on the current status of applications, enrollments, and funding for graduate education at the university. This is an issue of grave concern, and Professor Ledford has been charged to bring it to the attention of the deans, the provost, and the Executive Committee. A task force, led by Dean Rozek and Deputy Provost Lynn Singer, has been formed to explore the issue; all schools will be represented on this task force.

At the December 19, 2007 meeting, the Budget Committee worked with Vice President Christine Ash to determine “price tags” for the priorities with budget impact that had been submitted by the Senate’s standing committees.

Discussion of priorities with budget impact

Professor Matthiesen distributed a “ballot” for Senators’ review and comment. The document summarized the eight priorities that have been submitted by the Senate’s standing committees, and explained how the voting to show support for these priorities will proceed. Professor Matthiesen addressed questions and comments, noting that this exercise is a work in progress and subject to revision in the coming years. He expressed the need to convey the Faculty Senate’s top priority to the Board of Trustees. He added that Senators are to vote in their capacity as Faculty Senators, and encouraged them to consult with the constituent faculty they represent before casting their votes.

Several standing committee chairs provided brief summaries of their committee’s submission(s):

John Blackwell, Committee on Information Resources

Susan Case, Committee on Faculty Compensation and Committee on Personnel

Elizabeth Kaufman, Committee on Women Faculty

Sana Loue, Committee on Minority Faculty

Paul Salipante, Committee on University Libraries

Adjournment

Upon motion, duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Susan J. Zull
Secretary of the University Faculty

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, OH 44106

**Report of the Faculty Senate Budget Committee
to the Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate**
Tuesday, January 22, 2008, 3:30 p.m.

Since its last report to the Senate, the Faculty Senate Budget Committee has met twice, on December 19, 2007, to consider Senate Committee Budget Proposals, and on January 16, 2008.

At the January 16 meeting, Dean of Graduate Studies Charles Rozek gave a disconcertingly dismal report regarding applications, enrollments, and funding for graduate education in the University. He indicated that a perfect storm of baleful conditions has converged which has caused a significant downturn in applications, particularly of international students, and thus a decline in our selectivity. Some of the negative environmental conditions that contribute to this are policies in management centers which have perverse outcomes with regard to applications. For example, in the School of Medicine, the shifting of graduate support onto training grants, which cannot support international students, has (predictably) resulted in a decline in applications from international students at the same time that uncertainty in the funding environment at NIH has led faculty to decline to admit graduate students and fund them from their grants, out of uncertainty whether those grants will be renewed or preference to use those grants to hire post-doctoral fellows instead, in hopes of competing better for grants in the increasingly competitive environment. In the School of Engineering, the absence of institutional funding for the first two years of graduate education, and the preference for post-doctoral fellows rather than graduate students on individual scholars' grants, has also resulted in a decline in advertised graduate student slots and thus a decline in applications.

Clearly, the need is immediate for Deans of the management centers to work with their Faculty Budget Committees to think of ways to remove these perverse incentives and to encourage faculty to seek applications and admit highly-qualified graduate students. Dean Rozek and Vice-Provost Singer reported encouraging discussions with the Development office about plans to feature funding for graduate fellowships in any upcoming Capital Campaign and thus build up institutional resources for funding graduate education. But the report from the Faculty Senate Budget Committee to the Senate is that the situation of graduate education at the University is parlous beyond its immediate revenue implications, and the Committee urges the Senate and all faculty involved in the Academic Strategic Planning processes to give these problems high-priority attention.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth F. Ledford, Chair
Associate Professor of History and Law