

CLAS Faculty Council Minutes

Thursday, February 28, 2008, 10:40 a.m.

CLAS Dean's Conference Room

Elected members present: Nora Alter, Susan DeFrance, Jean Larson, John Leavey, Carol Murphy, Ronald Randles, Samuel Stafford, Donald Stehouwer, John Yelton, Ann Wehmeyer, Barbara Zsembik

Ex-officio members present: Chris Snodgrass, Paul Robinson for Elizabeth Dale

The Dean: Joe Glover,

Elected members absent: Kenneth Wagener

Student members absent: no student members have been selected

Glover said he did not have anything to report to our group. He announced that he would be sending a memo to all CLAS faculty on the upcoming budget cuts and indicated that the provost had sent a dollar figure to go with the 6% budget reduction for which the college needs to prepare in light of worsening state revenue projections for the coming budget year.

When asked about the hiring of the lecturer for the Graham Center with out consultation of the faculty, Glover described the scenario of events.

We discussed possible ways to handle the upcoming budget reduction. We heard that skipping a pay period is essentially a furlough and only the state can order a furlough.

We heard the order in which the past union contract calls for layoffs of faculty in a unit which has been declared a layoff unit: first non-tenured faculty who have been here less than five years; then non-tenured faculty who have been here five or more years; then tenured faculty. We also heard that the union and the trustees had reached tentative agreement to change the rules on layoffs, but had not formalized a binding agreement.

We discussed the possibility of endorsing the report of the finance committee for a 3% reduction but did not vote on it.

In light of the upcoming March 10 meeting with the Provost to be held jointly with Chairs of Departments and the Finance Committee, we decided to meet again on Monday, March 3 at 3:00 p.m. to continue the discussion of budget reduction and to prepare for Dean candidate interviews.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Larson, Associate Chair