CLAS Faculty Council Minutes  
Wednesday, May 28, 2008, 1:30 p.m.  
4112 Turlington Hall

Elected members present:  Susan DeFrance, Jean Larson, John Leavey, Carol Murphy, Ronald Randles, Samuel Stafford, Donald Stehouwer, Ann Wehmeyer, John Yelton, Barbara Zsembik  
Ex-officio members present:  Chris Snodgrass, Paul Robinson  
The Dean:  
Elected members absent:  Nora Alter, Kenneth Wagener  
Ex-officio members absent:  
Student members absent:  no student members have been selected

The meeting was called to order and the minutes of April 30 were approved as corrected.

John Leavey distributed copies of the CLAS budget reduction data provided by Dean Glover. Several reports were made on changes from the initially announced reductions and possible differences in their implementation.

From the review of the CLAS Budget Reduction Data and the notes by K. Browne, it appears that some individuals initially targeted for layoff have been reprieved by covering their salaries for one or two years with non-recurring funds and/or targeting a source for recurring funds that kicks in at some point in the near future. Examples include the FTE reduction of Bullivant providing a recurring funding source for Kleepsies, the shifting of funding for Caes to CES, of Sow to CAS, CIBER (there are no recurring funds in CAS, CES, both of which are housed in CLAS). It was proposed that future drops be used to cover recurring costs for some of the remaining faculty designated for layoffs. Leavey will ask Glover what are the salaries for Sheila Dickison (Classics/Administration), Andy Gordon (English), Fred Gregory (History), who are the only individuals scheduled for drop in 09/10.

There was general agreement that the impending layoff of faculty is a loss to the college, both tenure track and lecturer. There was little discussion of the possible long range effects of the proposal to use future attrition to eliminate the proposed layoffs.

John Leavey drafted what he called “Basic Principles for Budget Reduction” for future discussion:

1. Tenure-track faculty are not to be laid off.
2. There is no gain but significant damage in eliminating or suspending doctoral programs in French, German and Philosophy.
3. Structural changes should be made for academic reasons. We urge that the affected departments retain their autonomy and integrity while sharing administrative staff.
4. We support the strengths of an international curriculum with focus on languages, literature, and cultures.

No motions were made; no votes were taken. It was decided to meet with the Finance Committee as soon as practical, and to consider meeting with Chairs of Departments at a future time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Larson, Associate Chair