CLAS Faculty Council Minutes
Friday, December 12th, 2008, 9.35 a.m., 150 Pugh Hall

Elected members present: Nora Alter, Susan deFrance, Jean Larson, John Leavey, Carol Murphy, Ronald Randles, Donald Stehouwer, Ann Wehmeyer, John Yelton, Barbara Zsembik
Elected member absent: Sam Stafford
Ex-officio members present: Chris Snodgrass, David Pharies
Student member present: Amber Von Matre
Student member absent: Kristin Tennyson
The Dean: Paul D’Anieri

Dean D’Anieri said that there was no news on the budget. He told us that it is difficult to formulate a vision for CLAS without knowing the approximate size of the budget, and that even the tactics of coping with cuts (e.g. deciding between horizontal and vertical ones) depends on the size of the reductions. He did share with us four principles that, in his opinion, governed programmatic decisions:

1) The teaching mission of the program.
2) The quality of the research program and its stature. This includes graduate student training.
3) The centrality of the program. An example: “Can we imagine a College of Liberal Arts and Sciences without Department X?” If the answer is “no,” then that department is central to the mission of CLAS.
4) The functionality of the program. Is a department or center using its resources efficiently?

Dean D’Anieri left at 10.40 a.m.

The meeting closed at 11.30 a.m.

Minutes submitted by John Yelton, Associate Chair.