

Minutes of Joint Meeting of CLAS Faculty Council & Faculty Finance Committee
Tues., March 27, 2012
Ruth McQuown Room (219 Dauer)

Faculty Council members present: Monika Ardelt, Susan Bluck, Tace Hedrick, Kevin Ingersent, Jed Keesling (*ex officio*), Gillian Lord (for Gonda Van Steen), Ellen Martin, Michael Martinez, Leslie Murray, John Palmer (Chair), Andrew Rosalsky, Rick Stepp Brigitte Weltman-Aron

Members absent: Brent Henderson

Finance Committee members present: Rori Bloom, Robert D'Amico, David Foster, Michael Martinez (Chair), Whitney Sanford, Ata Sarajedini, Uma Sethuram (*ex officio* Dean's office liaison)

Others present: Dean Paul D'Anieri, Susan Hegeman, Sidney Wade, Phillip Wegner

1. John Palmer called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.
2. The minutes of the 2/21/12 Faculty Council meeting were approved by the Faculty Council members
3. Finance Committee Chair Michael Martinez presented a preliminary version of the slide presentation on the parameters affecting planning for CLAS budget cuts, entitled "Discussion of CLAS Budget Principles," and then invited discussion of the presentation in advance of the Finance Committee members taking the presentation to department meetings throughout the College. Discussion focused on a number of issues, including whether the references to unit or department elimination as a possible option might be too alarmist, but it was agreed that reference to this undesirable option was an important indicator of the seriousness of the College's financial situation in light of the looming level of budget cuts. There were also strong expressions of concern about several other options, including both faculty layoffs and staff layoffs in conjunction with implementation of the Shared Services Center. There were expressions of support as well as some scepticism about the anticipated move to a shared services model.
4. The discussion of budget-cutting options continued in earnest with Dean D'Anieri. Some faculty members indicated their preference for enduring furloughs or a temporary salary reduction if necessary to avoid laying off colleagues in the College, while others opposed such an option. Discussion also focused on what other means could be employed to provide faculty with the opportunity to provide feedback and make alternative proposals and on how the Dean would eventually present his plan to the College.
5. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.