

College of Arts & Sciences

Faculty Senate

March 23, 2009

Attending: Ardis, Meyer, Levia, Doren, Cakoni, Case, Szabo, Watson, Busch, Bernstein, Brockmann, Pelesko, Miller, Cohen, Mortenson, Ussery, Beiler, Rosenberg, Wilson, Sloan-White, Neal, Owocki, Austin, Burton, Seraphin, Cleveland

Excused: Coleman, Bonham, Weber

Absent: Randolph, Barrier, Bruening, Shenkle, Silver, Ridge, Rise, Noble-Harvey, Johnson, Chen, Miller, Chapman, Hanley

## MINUTES

1. Minutes from the February meeting approved.
2. Agenda was approved.
3. Interim Dean George Watson remarks:

George Watson will be interim dean for the coming year. Ann Ardis will be interim deputy dean and Joann Browning will become the Associate Dean of Humanities. . He gave an overview of the budget exercise currently being done by the chairs. He explained in detail that department chairs were being asked to do cut 4% of their current budget. The heaviest hits were in the S&E of departments, mostly in the sciences. These cuts aren't meant to be punitive, but he explained that the Dean's Office is looking for elasticity in department budgets. They tried to find areas that would have the least impact on job lines and programs. The Dean's office tried to keep the graduate and faculty lines secure during these cuts and the allocation per line will be increased to \$15,000 though less lines will distributed.

Temporary lines were not hit quite as hard because of the need for more teaching with increased enrollment numbers. In order to get a 4% deduction there will have to be professional and salaried staff positions eliminated.

The 4% plan cut has been submitted and will be discussed with the provost soon. Department budget meetings have been set up and budgets will be discussed in detail at that time. If professional and salaried staff positions open up due to retirement or other reasons, those lines will be frozen until at least July 1 when we see what the new budget is.

Larry Cohen asked what the rationale is for not doing a 6 and 8%. Watson said that he did not feel it would be beneficial to the college to list programs that would be cut at this time if it's not going to become a reality. As an institution we feel we're in a better position to hire better quality faculty. Many universities have frozen faculty hiring so we're hoping to hire those

exceptional faculty that will be on the market. The dean's office is convinced that our college will not need to cut that severely.

John Bernstein asked if we have an idea yet about our enrollments. Watson said the fees for students are due May 1, so we'll have a better idea then.

Ted Davis asked if we know anything more about the stimulus package and how it will affect the university. He said that even with the stimulus package, it will not fix the financial crisis in Delaware. Scientist and engineers on campus, i.e. Computer Info Sciences are actively pursuing grants from the federal stimulus package also.

Hans Jorge Busch is concerned that the s-contracts will be cut. They are already working extensively with TAs and s-contracts . Watson said that all the associate deans were included in discussions and that all that was considered.

6. Ted Davis asked the group for help with nominations. There have only been 4 responses to the request for nominations for committees and officers which are not enough for the vacancies. Ted will send out a request to chairs this week as well.

7. Tony Seraphin discussed the move of Geography to the College of Marine Sciences. Del Levia discussed the history of the move and said the faculty was unanimously in favor of the move.

Group D requirements – College Educational Affairs committee has been asked to review the university group D requirements and change our title to be in line with theirs. His group will be meeting and having continued discussions regarding this.

8. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:00

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Cleveland