

AOF Board Minutes

Nov. 17, 2007

Present were President Marie Vitulli (UO), Vice-President Steve Gibbons (WOU), Secretary-Treasurer Kemble Yates (SOU), Tim Thompson (OIT), Greg Monahan (EOU) (phone), Victor Hsu (OSU), and Bob Becker (OSU). Also present: Mark Nelson (phone), Erica Hagedorn, and Karen Mainzer.

President Marie Vitulli called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

The minutes of our October meeting were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report: We are behind in our collection of dues – more in the “by check” category than in the “payroll deduction” category. We're about to send out a membership recruiting letter.

Campus reports—

UO (MV)

- Enrollments are flat.
- Provost has finally agreed to meet with the Senate budget committee.
- Still great concern about the finances and cost of new basketball arena; “Dead Presidents” (of Senate) wrote a letter of concern.
- UO administration still saying that it won't get enough from DAS to fund the 3.2% plus 3% because so many unclassified folks aren't in the General Fund, and the administration claims that DAS may not release monies in a timely way, and also because the CPI in Portland increased by less (allegedly) than these amounts.
- The UO Senate Budget Committee is trying to understand UO's budget in as much detail as possible, and be able to infer all salary bases plus what it takes to raise salaries by a given amount. It seems there are many creative ways by which (especially) administrators get additional pay that doesn't show up directly as a salary increase.
- Pilot online course evaluations begun. Some faculty have security concerns.

OSU (BB & VH)

- Details still very sketchy on faculty salary increases. Faculty Economic Committee is preparing a report which Bob hopes to share with our board.
- Raises will average 4% but will range from 1% to 8%, decided largely by department chairs for first year. Second year is vague, but talk is 6% average for that year.
- Capital campaign is now over halfway to their goal.
- Health, Pharmacy, and Veterinary Medicine reorganization of their business services has occurred; hope is that will free up some dollars for academia. Other proposed reorganization (e.g. creation of College of Arts and Sciences) is being met with skepticism by faculty.
- Enrollments flat.

SOU (KY)

- CAS chairs pushed back on a requested “budget snapshot” & got a postponement.
- APSOU negotiations not yet to salary, but summer has been settled. The union is going to ask for 14% across the biennium.
- Provost search underway.

- “Faculty” Senate is having a Constitutional crisis – only faculty with rank allowed to serve on the senate which is at odds with practice of about a quarter of the senate being administrators.
- Enrollments flat (which is good for us!)

EOU (GM)

- Budget woes continue... Budget cutting plan to go to OUS Board in January.
- Provost is now gone. Interim Provost is the former Education Dean.
- Current Interim President is exploring a way to stay on into 2008.
- There have been a large number of administrative cuts.
- Union contract ratified.

OIT (TT)

- Raises of 9.5% + 4.25% have been recommended by the Faculty Compensation Committee. Two other pots of money have been set aside: Equity and Performance. However, to date the only increase actually received is 2%.
- Provost has begun attending Senate meetings.
- Academic restructuring is being actively discussed (e.g. do we need deans?).
- Chairs are getting \$5000, and the “high chairs” are getting an additional \$1000/month.
- Faculty have met with Chancellor Pernsteiner twice regarding the leadership transition at OIT.
- Enrollment is up 2.3% in FTE.

WOU (SG)

- Provost search well underway.
- 17 faculty searches beginning even with no Provost. New Nursing program means some additional positions.

Executive Director Report (Mark Nelson) --

There will be a February session, supposedly for 30 days. Subprime lending may get some activity. \$3-4M sought for state troopers. Adult foster home abuse may get some legislation. Columbia River water may get some attention. Non-citizen drivers licenses contentious.

Schraeder is willing to have a committee hearing on faculty salaries during the February session. We need to prepare for this! We need to get overall OUS data plus individual campus data. If necessary, we'll go forward using public records requests.

AOF will send letters to the OU, OSU, and PSU faculties regarding salaries.

PERS litigation: Nothing really new here... awaiting Kantor's ruling on the Arken decision.

Other PERS: Employer's rate projected in 2009 to decline by 1.7% (14.8 to 13.1%). We have concerns about the ORP rate (linked to PERS rate) now dropping below 6% (for Tier 3 folks). Still lots of pushback from the PERS Board that their large reserves are still necessary. Karen will send us the .pdf version of the Mercer study.

Membership: We looked at a new draft of a membership solicitation brochure and a newsletter. We also looked at some of the issues regarding updating and keeping current the content on our web site. Maybe Sherry Yang and her students can help us.

Future meetings: No Dec. mtg., Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 8, April 12, May 10

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM