Educational Policies and Planning Comm.

Minutes of Meeting 2-24-00

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm

1. For information only: EPP has received a record of a vote in the department of Mathematics in support of the creation of a new department of Computer Science, to be administratively housed in an as yet un-named new School. Keats Sparrow, Dean of Arts and Sciences supported the creation of the new department.

In order to officially act on this issue, EPP needs a proposal and draft unit code from an administrator or unit faculty to be presented to the committee at their Mar. 6, 3:30 pm meeting.

2. The proposal for a new undergraduate major in Occupational Safety was presented by Mark Friend. The proposal was approved.

3. Bob Thompson and Richard Ringeisen responded to several questions from the committee on the subject of next year’s budget priorities, and faculty positions. Brenda Killingsworth, and the committee settled on the following discussion points for the next meeting. All members of the EPP committee are requested to study this list, and think of any other important university budgetary items and concerns that we should discuss.

a. Faculty salary competitiveness: are our salaries equal to those at comparable institutions?

b. Faculty retirement: What are the options for use of the money available from the salary of the faculty member who has left?

c. Faculty computer program: This is very important, and should continue, (and will, according to V.C. Ringeisen). The portion of the funds available for special purposes needs discussion (The money available for special computers and portables)

d. Improved graduate student stipends

e. More teaching assistants

f. Increased academic unit budgets

g. Student fee structure: could any of the student fees be shifted to more support for technology?

h. Library budget and the high inflation rate for library expenses.

i. The balance of summer school classes: what gets taught and what does not? –

j. Instructors’ and lecturers’ salaries and benefits.
4. Productivity Index and concerns of the Dean of Arts and Sciences and the Foreign Languages department. Although these concerns were presented to the Faculty Senate in an unorthodox manner, EPP discussed the issue, and inquired of V.C. Ringeisen to explain the matter. Ringeisen explained that he took the following items into consideration when faced with a request for new faculty positions:

a. The Strategic Plan

b. Service and Outreach activities of the unit

c. Productivity Index which is determined by: number of students per faculty research output grants and grant proposals

d. Merits of the proposal/request for additional funds/positions.

The committee adjourned at 5:30 pm
David Lawrence
Secretary