Order of Business

I. Call to Order.

II. Minutes.

III. Minutes of the 2007-08 Faculty Council Meeting #18, February 12, 2008

IV. Chair’s Report.

V. Provost’s Report.

V. Other Announcements and Communications.

• University Budget (President White/Jana Stotler)
• Goal IV (Jeannie Harvey/Mark Edwards)
• Resolution on FSH 5100 J – Indirect Cost Assessments (Oman/Schmeckpepper)

VI. Committee Reports.

VII. Special Orders.

VIII. Unfinished Business and General Orders.

IX. New Business.

X. Adjournment.

Professor Don Crowley, Chair 2007-2008, Faculty Council

Attachments:
Minutes of 2007-2008 FC Meeting #18, February 12, 2008
A quorum being present, the chair called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. in the Brink Hall Faculty Lounge.

Minutes: It was moved and seconded (Miller, Murphy) to accept the minutes of the February 5th meeting as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair’s Report: Aside from an announcement concerning the offering of a workshop in Boise on UI outreach and engagement on March 13 and 14, the chair’s report was given over to consideration of a resolution coming from the ASUI Senate and a report from the University Budget and Finance Committee.

Resolution Concerning SB 1381: If enacted SB 1381 would remove all university control of firearms on their campuses. Currently at the University of Idaho firearms were prohibited on campus. Students might bring them to the university but they were required to store them at the campus police station, where they had 24/7 access to retrieving them for off-campus use. SB 1381 would allow any student, faculty member, or staff member to bear arms on campus, the only requirement being pro forma notification to the president that they were doing so. The ASUI Senate’s resolution was opposed to SB 1381 and in favor of the university’s current policy with regard to firearms on campus. It was moved and seconded (Murphy, Guilfoyle) to endorse the ASUI Senate’s opposition to SB 1381. There was some confusion as to the intent of the exact wording of the senate resolution so, by a friendly amendment, Faculty Council’s proposed resolution became:

Be it resolved, that, in concert with President Tim White and the ASUI Senate, the University of Idaho Faculty Council opposes SB 1381 which would abolish the university’s ability to regulate firearms on its campuses, strongly preferring the current approach as enshrined in FSH 2400 and APM 35.35 H.

The motion carried with two abstentions.

University Budget and Finance Committee Report: Professor Mike McCollough, chair of the University Budget and Finance Committee, reported on the initial work on operation and strategic budgeting for the next fiscal year in light of certain decreased revenue streams and certain increased costs. With regard to the first, it was estimated that the university was going to forgo some $1.9 million in expected student tuition and fees, and, concurrently some $1 million in workload adjustment money that would have come if we had enrolled the number of students we expected to. On the other side of the ledger utility costs were up at least half a million and the cost of the annual audit was up by a quarter of a million; moreover, and there were urgent needs to implement certain strategic initiatives (e.g., to increase graduate student stipends, student scholarship funds, appropriately fund strategic enrollment management, and provide faculty start-up costs). He reminded councilors that each recruited or retained student meant approximately $10,000 in fees and state support—a hundred such students meant an additional $1 million, thus it was important to make Vandal Friday as successful a recruiting day as possible.

A councilor noted that, when reallocating money, certain budgets (i.e., X-accounts) were easier to access than others (e.g., Y-accounts). He hoped that, when reallocating, all university budget types would be involved. Predictably, that remark led to a discussion of how important Y-accounts were to the general work of the university—a discussion that the chair cut short with the promise that the president would be with us on February 26th, specifically to talk about budgeting matters. It was hoped that with him would be Lloyd Mues, vice president for finance and administration. It turns out that Lloyd Mues will be out of town that day but will be represented by Jan Statler, Associate Vice President, Budget Office.

Provost’s Report: The provost thanked the UBFC for its proactive stance with regard to budget concerns. The question was how and where to invest to improve the university. He reiterated the announcement of the
workshop in Boise on UI outreach and engagement. It was good, continuing discussion of how the institution could build strong, two-way bridges with both teaching and research. He also noted that the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival would be next week, encouraging everyone to attend. There is a conference on his life and work scheduled for February 19-20th “Jazz History and Culture: An Academic Conference in honor of Lionel Hampton’s 100th Birthday” see jazz festival website: http://www.jazz.uidaho.edu/default.aspx?pid=47621.

Resolution Concerning Collective Bargaining: Professor Robert Dickow, School of Music and treasurer of AFT, provided some historical background on the issue of collective bargaining for higher education faculty in Idaho. Some thirty years ago the right to collective bargaining had been established for public school teachers, but faculty in higher education were excluded. Over the years several attempts had been made to change that, but none had succeeded. In this year’s legislative session, representatives Ringo and Trail had introduced legislation that would allow collective bargaining for higher education faculty. The AFT had adopted a resolution in support of those efforts and had sent it on to Faculty Council for its consideration. Because the state attorney general had raised questions about the exact language of the proposed bill, it had been pulled from the committee docket for this year with the plan to revise it and reintroduce it next year. Thus there was no need for Faculty Council to go on record one way or the other on this issue at this time, but it should be aware of the issue as it is likely to come back.

Proposed Changes to UI Parking and Transportation Policy: Mr. Carl Root, manager of parking and transportation services, was present to provide background and context for the changes being proposed to UI parking regulations and fees. He noted that parking was an auxiliary service that received no Gen Ed money. Its goal was to be self-sustaining and it was, though currently there were a great many deferred maintenance and capital improvement needs that could not be met by its current revenue. He also noted that the cost of maintaining and repairing UI parking lots had increased dramatically as the cost of petroleum and petroleum-based products had increased dramatically and the national construction boom had also put upward pressure on construction costs in general. Some 20% of its current revenue now went to debt service for debts incurred in previous parking infrastructure upgrades. Meeting with Faculty Council was the first of several public forums on the proposed changes—they were looking to gather information and make final decisions by April.

Major projects planned, but as yet unfunded, were to pave the rest of the “west of Kibbie” lot and the lot adjacent to the Student Health Center. Removing parking from the north side of Nez Perce Drive and relocating it (and the dumpster) to a new location somewhere behind the Greek houses on the south side of Nez Perce, and realigning Stadium Way so as to intersect the Pullman highway at Peterson and provide better, safer pedestrian crossing of the highway.

The subsequent discussion largely centered on two issues: (1) charging for disability parking and visitor parking (neither having been charged before), and (2) proposed changes to the Administration Building parking lot. The rationale for charging for disability parking was that there was significant abuse of disability parking permits and that, in any case, this group should not be subsidized by others. Council-members urged caution in charging for visitor parking when the visitors were prospective students or their parents. The proposal to charge considerably more for parking at the Administration Building was to reduce the number of people seeking to park there and therefore reduce the frustration of never being able to find a place. The problem of course is that there will inevitably be too many cars chasing too few spaces in a small lot surrounded by major university buildings. The possibility of creating a lot to the west of the current Ad Building lot, at the site of the first football field was broached. Any decision to expand parking lots is waiting on a revision of the overall campus long range plan and, of course, a suitable source of funding.

In response to another question, Mr. Root said that Moscow Valley Transit is currently maxed out with the equipment it has and therefore cannot increase its current routes. There is the possibility of future grant money that might sallow expansion.

Adjournment: It was moved and seconded (Miller, Murphy) to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m. The chair announced that, unless something urgent was to come up in the next couple of days, there would be no meeting next week; the next scheduled meeting is for February 26th.

Respectfully submitted,
Douglas Q. Adams, Faculty Secretary and Secretary to Faculty Council
Whereas, principal investigators are the lifeblood of external research funding at the University of Idaho; and

Whereas, external funding limitations often preclude the purchase of laboratory facilities and are insufficient for graduate student support and professional travel related to the principal investigators’ research; and

Whereas, principal investigators usually plan their research projects and endeavors several years in advance;

To encourage research and facilitate research related planning and expenditures, the UofI Faculty Council recommends the following changes to Chapter 5 (Part 5100), Section J, of the Faculty Staff Handbook:

J. INDIRECT-COST ASSESSMENTS.

J-1. UI does not waive indirect costs (i.e., facilities and administrative costs, F&A) on any grant or contract unless (a) the granting agency provides in writing its official policy stating that it does not allow indirect costs or allows only a specific percentage or (b) the vice president for research determines that the grant or contract is of such an unusual nature that a waiver, in part or in full, is unquestionably in UI’s interest.

J-2. The annual income generated through facilities and administrative costs (F&A) will be distributed between the university administration and the principal investigators and units that generated the income. This distribution will be reviewed by the Research Council as provided in section J-3.

a. The intended uses of these funds are to support and stimulate scholarly activities by providing financial resources to address administrative, personnel, infrastructure and other costs associated with productive research environments.

b. The unit/department/principal investigator to which the funds are allocated has control over use of these funds. A unit/department/principal investigator may, however, choose to make its funds available to a different unit.

c. In cases where revenues are generated by multiple units on a single project, the units will jointly develop a method to allocate the revenues. If the units cannot agree on a method for allocating the revenues, the Vice President for Research will arbitrate the differences and specify the final allocation.

J-3. A minimum of 5% of the annual F&A income will be distributed to the principal investigators receiving the external grant or contract, to be divided amongst the principal investigators according to the percent of work responsibility defined on the External Support Form (ESF). A minimum of 15% of the annual F&A income will be distributed to the departments of the principal investigators, again divided according to the percent of work responsibility defined on the ESF. A minimum of 30% of the annual F&A income will be distributed to the colleges and institutes involved in the research, with the division negotiated between the heads of those involved units. The remainder of the F&A annual income will be allocated as approved by the Research Council. The Research Council will review the sharing of indirect-cost income and advise the university administration on its use and distribution on an annual basis, provided that the minimum allocations specified herein are not abridged.

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