Call to Order

10:05 AM, by IFC President Ralph Wilkerson


Absent: Richard Wright

Agenda and Minutes

Motion to accept February 24, 2006 minutes – approved on voice vote

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Administrative Review

Discussion on administrative review, including who is reviewed, who performs the review, how information is distributed, if the review should be formative or summative, etc. UMR has had some issues with this recently, as has UMSL. UMSL has had a committee study this issue, and some have concluded it is best for the Chancellor to take the lead in the review process - and to make the Chancellor responsible for obtaining faculty buy-in to the process.

The discussion concluded with no formal actions or votes taken.

Visit from J. Gardner

J. Gardner led a discussion on technology transfer, and intellectual property (IP). There is restructuring occurring at the campus and system level, to improve the university’s position in this area. A foundation may be formed to help manage IP. IFC recommended that that faculty with entrepreneurial experience be placed on the board of directors for such a foundation.
Discussion with S. Lehmkuhle and S. Graham

Final draft of Non Tenure Track faculty report was presented. A number of issues addressed in the report were discussed. Changes on one page were suggested, and the discussion tabled to make time for other business.

Visit with S. Knorr

Discussion of various bills, and issues, of concern at the state and national level.

Campus Reports

UMC

Started assigning faculty to committees for next academic year.

Recently had forums on tenure clock extension for new parents, and on extending governance to departments. Matter is now scheduled for a campus-wide vote.

There are concerns about the increase in deferred maintenance.

There has been speculation that executive order 29A may be rescinded. The UMC faculty oppose its rescission, and believe executive order 29A continues to serve the university well.

UMKC

Campus-wide elections are underway.

Budget discussions for FY08 are also underway. So far faculty are very pleased, since Chancellor has mandated that 2% increase from state be used exclusively on faculty salary and benefits - with no additional funds for the central administration. In addition, a $4.5 million short-fall will be covered with central administration funds.

UMR

The Academic Council is concluding their review of the proposed realignment of the campus administration (possible elimination of academic deans). Report has been forwarded to the campus faculty, and voting has been completed. There have been a wide range of responses, and opinions appear to be running deep.

Preparing for upcoming Board of Curators meeting.

Campus is making progress in the area of shared governance.
Some issues with CIO and ITCC committee.

UMSL

Budget and planning meetings are being held on the proposed administrative cuts. Discussions are very productive, occur routinely, and are driven by information - which is greatly appreciated.

A strong case was made for a 3% raise pool, especially since faculty have gone without cost of living increases for many years now. Need a raise pool for symbolic reasons as much as anything - as a sign that we will not keep bleeding faculty.

Discussion on summer activities continues. Some see a balanced 3 semester/12 month-a-year operation, while others have a different vision. Matter has been slowed somewhat in the Provost office, where a committee is looking at it. Should have a recommendation by the end of the current calendar year, for implementation in summer of 2007.

Significant frustration on figuring out how to go forward with administrative reviews. Initial committee recommendations were not well received by faculty senate. Would like to solve this matter “backwards”, by having administration take the lead on this issue - and have the Chancellor ask for faculty buy-in. Also suggest that administrators are reviewed at the same time as their unit.

President’s Comments

Asked for clarification on UMR CIO/ITCC issue.

Tuition recommendation to Board of Curators will be for a 5% increase, not the 5.8% previously planned. Deferred maintenance will be dropped to 1% to help reduce budget shortfall.

Discussion of matters involving athletic department.

Continuing to work on MSU/UMR cooperative education program. There will probably be no proposal this fiscal year, because of delays at MSU.

MOHELA still up in the air. Three of the UM system campuses have expressed concerns over distribution of funds from this sale. Despite this, the campuses have been very good at working in a collegial way on this matter.

Has looked at Non Tenure Track proposal. It is good to give academic units more freedom here.

Discussion with S. Lehmkuhle and S. Graham
Board of Curators has requested a development session on shared governance. Format of that presentation was discussed.

Returning to administrative review, S.Graham offered to assist in looking up information on how peer institutions review administrators.

A UMC representative expressed concern that the 2.5 day deadline for turning in grades at the end of the semester. Instructors of large sections do not always have sufficient time to grade their final examinations, and may alter the format of the exam just to meet this deadline. There was general agreement that this deadline should be extended.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by Kurt Kosbar, IFC Secretary