

## *Minutes*

Faculty Council Budget Committee  
September 23, 2002  
419 Student Union

Present: Comer, Ebro, Gelfand, Moder, Paustenbaugh, Radford, Smeyak, Warde

- I. Gelfand opened the meeting by requesting updates from the ad hoc committees formed at the August meeting. Moder gave an overview of the fee waiver issue by summarizing information she received from Joe Weaver's office. Of interest, a proposal to cut fee waivers was enacted in 2001; out-of-state tuition waivers were capped at \$3,750 and in-state waivers were reduced by a maximum of \$250. Moder also found out that OSU is the only Oklahoma institution that exceeds the state-mandated cap in which fee waivers cannot exceed 3% of the university's E and G Budget. We are still waiting on more data from the Office of Institutional Research and Budget.

Moder then reviewed all the different types of fee waiver programs that exist, and the different levels of academic achievement required to maintain those waivers. The committee agreed in general that different standards of scholarship should not exist (i.e. 2.0 for Legacy versus 3.0 or higher for some other programs).

- II. Paustenbaugh and Ebro provided separate tabulations of the budget situations in cohort and neighboring states. The data indicate that budgets are bad everywhere and that most states seem to be having worse cut-backs and higher tuition increases than OSU.
- III. The committee discussed the issues surrounding the possible establishment of a campus of Northern Oklahoma College in Stillwater to provide remedial and other lower-division course offerings. The budgetary issues were discussed without any clear indication of whether it would be positive or negative for OSU, but the consensus was academic standards would decline because of the availability of similar courses as are offered at OSU but in a community-college setting, which are generally regarded as less demanding.
- IV. The recently revealed plan to furlough OSU employees during Spring Break was discussed. Presently this is just an idea by administration if budget cuts continue.
- V. Gelfand indicated that the community college issue, given its murky budget impact but clear academic impact, should be directed to the Academic Standards and Procedures Committee for monitoring, but that the Budget Committee would ask administration for a copy of the budget projections of this proposal. The ad hoc committee will also continue working on the fee waiver issue.
- VI. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Jon Comer