

Faculty Council Budget Committee  
January 13, 2004  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor – Math-Science Bldg.  
Present: Fullerton, Gelfand, Radford, Raff, Smeyak, Warde

Committee Chair Scott Gelfand opened the meeting and asked the committee to discuss the status of the proposed faculty survey. Dr. Warde handed out a draft, which remained unchanged from the December meeting.

The specific elements and questions of the survey were discussed. Several changes were made to the draft. One issue, whether or not to include staff in the survey was discussed. Gelfand said that he would check the desires of the Staff Council prior to deciding whether to include staff members or not. Gelfand suggested that perhaps it would be better to offer to help the staff with their own survey, given that what the two groups would want on the survey might be different.

Fullerton agreed to make the suggested changes, post the survey on the web and circulate it among the committee prior to launching. She hoped to do so no later than one week from the time she receives an electronic copy of the draft from Warde. Gelfand agreed to write the cover email to ask faculty to complete the survey.

The committee then determined a satisfactory meeting schedule for the Spring 2004 semester. Members present agreed to meet at noon on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month.

Gelfand reported that the University Tuition and Fee committee was unhappy with our committee's resolution regarding the fee structure, which was passed in the December meeting of the Faculty Council. They questioned why we passed a resolution before any decision had been made about the fee structure. Gelfand pointed out to them that had we waited until a final proposal was launched, it would have been too late for them to weigh faculty's wishes into their decision.

Gelfand reported back to our committee that one new idea on the table regarding the fee structure was to implement a fee on all classes. The fee would be determined by dividing the total number of dollars we now receive in fees by the number of credit hours students register for. Departments would then receive needed dollars from that pool. Gelfand saw this as a compromise between the two positions because it allowed costs to be more easily communicated to parents and would maintain a separate fee pool for departmental needs.

Gelfand reported that the first 6-month state revenue collections were up by \$242.5 million versus last year and \$73 million above estimate. However, the *Tulsa World* recently reported a \$700 million shortfall in the 2004 budget due to one-time savings taken last year and the reduction in personal income tax rates.

As a follow-up from last month's discussion on a budget for Faculty Council expenses, Gelfand asked the Provosts Office (through Diane LaFollette) how much the administration spends on Faculty Council from their funds or from Foundation accounts. He is waiting for a reply.

The meeting was concluded at 1:30