

Subcommittee on AHC Finance & Planning
Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 15, 2008

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate or Twin Cities Campus Delegation; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represents the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate or Delegation, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

Present: Paul Olin (chair), Yusuf Abul-Hajj, John Connett, David Lee, Lisa Towry, University Senate Office

Regrets: Helen Hansen, Beth Nunnally, Stewart McMullan, T. Michael Speidel

Beth Nunnally was unable to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict thus unable to give the scheduled overview of the AHC budget process.

Professor Olin began the meeting by handing out the 2010-2011 Biennial Budget Development report. The report looks at current expenditures and needs as well as those for the future. There is a breakdown of projected state responsibility as well as University responsibility. The committee discussed the framework in regards to the estimations and the realistic outcome given current inflation, costs, assistance, etc. A request has been made to the state to increase funding to offset the 4+% tuition increase. There is an anticipated increase in student aid that will assist approximately 4,100 additional students in some fashion. The Regents will be reviewing this framework in September.

Professor Olin discussed the new budget model and it's fairness, possible improvements and areas for more input. For example, departments with part-time help were getting assessed at a rate not commensurate with their operation. Faculty expressed a desire to have more input into funding for the University that could have an effect on their individual departments and staff. Olin discussed changes for UDS with healthier choices for vending foods and changes in vendors.

Professor Connett raised the question of which buildings are in the planning stage for development to move forward with strategic planning for projected space. What we will need, who will need it, etc. Professor Olin said that planners are looking at the ages of buildings and what needs repair as well as looking at how we teach, what facilities we will need for teaching and how it will be funded. Olin has a report referencing the preliminary plans for these changes that he will bring to the next meeting. The committee further discussed the challenges of appropriate classroom teaching space and the challenges with the increasingly limited building space and changes within the University. Professor Abul-Hajj mentioned the difficulty of scheduling rooms in advance. The group discussed the limited number of rooms that offer ITV and the needs for increased distant campus participation. The committee agreed that an increase in classroom technology is necessary for success.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:25 p.m.