P&A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 15, 2012

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the view of, nor are they binding on the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

Present: Steven Pearthree (Chair), Neil Anderson, Benjamin Clasen, Scott Gilbert, Ann Hagen, Danny Sussman.

Regrets: Frank Douma, Sarah Waldemar.

1. CHAIR'S REPORT

Steven Pearthree noted that the Senate Budget Subcommittee met recently and he mentioned that if groups are being asked to use more technology for their meetings, then the technology needs to work. It was suggested that this topic be broached with Scott Studham, the new Chief Information Officer, when he attends a Senate Consultative Committee (SCC) meeting.

He will be chairing the March meeting from Morris. After which he will have a lunch and roundtable discussion with P&A on the campus.

Lastly Adam Matula is resigning as Student Senate Chair to pursue a study abroad opportunity for spring semester.

2. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Benefits and Compensation
Benjamin Clasen said that B&C has not met recently and Susan Rafferty is on the March P&A Senate agenda to discuss the PULSE survey.

Communications
Danny Sussman noted that the newsletter is going out tonight. He then distributed the draft P&A survey, noting that all P&A are being asked to complete it, so it has been shortened and more open-ended questions were added. The goal is to have the survey out in late March so that there can be a preliminary discussion at the May P&A Senate meeting. Members discussed whether an incentive could be provided for completing the survey.

Outreach
Neil Anderson stated that the Outreach Subcommittee has drafted a letter to P&A serving on Senate committees that discusses how to report items to the broader P&A through the Senate, as well as thanks them for their service. They would appreciate it being sent by the Chair.

Steve Pearthree agreed to send the email and stated that the P&A from the Academic Freedom and Tenure, Finance and Planning, and Faculty Affairs Committees have already been invited to speak at the March meeting.

Neil Anderson then said that the subcommittee is also collecting the top 3 reasons to serve in the P&A Senate and benefits to serving as a subcommittee chair. He will be interviewing current leaders at the March meeting to help with applications.

Professional Development and Recognition

Scott Gilbert noted that PD&R cancelled their last meeting but is working on the next brown bag and the Outstanding Unit Award.

3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 2 P&A SENATE AGENDA

Members discussed the items on the agenda. For the PULSE discussion, Susan Rafferty should be asked to specifically address the issues from B&C, outcomes, benefits, tangible antidotes of changes that have been made from the survey, and how to make the results more transparent.

They then turned to the 27 pay period issue, which has not yet been fixed. As not much progress has been made, members asked whether Vice President Pfutzenreuter should be invited to a PACC meeting to discuss the issue and move it towards a resolution.

The April Senate meeting includes a discussion with Provost Hanson, announcement of the OUA winner, and elections. May meeting ideas included Scott Studham and the survey results.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Steve Pearthree stated that he received an email from the Equity, Access, and Diversity Committee (EAD) to see if P&A had any issues with salary equity, as they will be discussing the topic at their next meeting. Members noted that one area of concern is research associates, of which most are men and the few women are grossly underpaid. However there appears to be more equity in the P&A classification than faculty. Ann Hagen will attend the EAD meeting next week when this topic is discussed.

With no further business, Steven Pearthree thanked the members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate