FACULTY SENATE
Minutes
April 30, 2009
Taylor 306

Attendance:

3:30PM: Called to Order

- Approval of the Minutes – approved by acclamation
- Provost's Report, Dr. Doug Brown
- Guest Speaker: Mr. Charlie King, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance
  1. Stimulus package was the salvation – offsets much of the budget reduction (7,301,608)
  2. State reduced JMU budget 11.77 million
  3. Removed 2% salary increases (1,127,028) estimate
  4. We will pick up some money from interest earnings and credit card rebate through the state (1 mill)
  5. Overall, we still have a $4 million deficit
  6. We’re still approved to spend $15 million on property acquisition (if we have it)
  7. We got $6 million for equipment and furnishings in Arts & Recital Hall
  8. The Duke Hall renovation and Addition can spend $2,175,230 on detail planning, but half has to be borrowed by us for now. We should get it back from the state eventually.
  9. New constraints from assembly: There was talk of requiring caps on out of state enrollment w/ the constraint applying to the freshman class, but this did not pass (likely to come up again next year); a lot of reporting requirements come with the stimulus money; the out-of-state capital fee for out-of-state students was $2 per credit hour and is now $10 per hour but the money doesn't go to the university; debt collection recovery fund – fee for late payments and such
  10. To cover the $4.2 million deficit and new/increased costs for facility utilities and operation, new programs (Engineering) and auxiliary services we may have tuition/fees/etc. increases (in state and out-of-state, none over 5%),
  11. We are in the middle cost range w/o the VA schools and with other schools our out-of-state students apply to.

Questions: 1. What is the deficit after the tuition increase and what is happening to the academic affairs budget? A-There are no budget cuts in academic affairs except that it won't include a salary increase for wage employees. 2. Will we still have travel? A – yes. 3. Why is JMU low in tuition compared to others but so high in fees compared to others? A- That happened when JMU went coed and built new student activities, residence halls, sports, etc., which had to come from fees. (At the time we were getting better tuition money from the state.) 4. Will we
continue not to have raises except promotions and such? A- Yes, promotion money is built in; we don't know what will happen after next year with general raises. 5. Will we ever see tuition assistance for children of faculty and such? A (from Susan Wheeler) – There is no state provision for that at this time; it would have to be written in by the state legislature to be permitted. (Charlie King) This proposed benefit is equivalent to the fact that we could have increased revenue more to give faculty raises but we couldn't do so for wage employees. (Doug Brown) Faculty raises would also have had a bad impact for us with the legislature.

d. Current Capital Outlay Projects – arts facility, new residence, new dining hall, baseball softball complex over by Memorial Hall, Port Republic Field Projects (recreation and athletics); We have approval also to be renovating the first tower of the hospital, but this is dependent on bond funding.

• Speaker's Report: Dr. Steve Garren
  i. We still need Budget and Faculty Appeals committee chairs
  ii. We will be working on the Faculty Survey over the summer (no longer called the “faculty morale survey”)
  iii. We will also be looking at working procedures for classroom space and at the excused absence policy which has come up again (to see if it should be revisited so soon)

• OLD Business
  (none)

• Committee Reports (none)

• New Business
  A resolution was presented with respect to Dr. Rose’s raise, was seconded, and was discussed. Some senators argued that the motion didn’t address the central issues or the Board of Visitors, while others felt it was important before the year ended to represent concerns about this raise expressed by faculty. One senator pointed out that this raise could perhaps seem as problematic to Richmond as faculty salary increases. The vote was then called, and the motion failed but with a recommendation that the more general issues about administrative salaries/raises and their relations to faculty salaries/raises should be considered by the faculty concerns committee next fall.

• Adjourned at 4:57pm.