

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Faculty Council Meeting  
November 06, 2008

Members Present: Robert Aguirre, Mark Ferguson, Marvin Zalman, Geoff Nathan, Charles Parrish, Seymour Wolfson, John Klein, Caroline Morgan, Robert Reynolds, Avis Vidal, Allen Batteau, David Coleman, Mark Vanberkum

Attending: Robert Thomas, Donald Haase, David Njus, Joseph Rankin, Caroline Brzuchowski, Paul Clemens, Joe Kieleszewski, Arthur Marotti

Absent With Notice: Fred Pearson, Boris Baltus, Roslyn Schindler, Eric Ash, Mark Baskaran

The meeting was called to order at 9:30.

The minutes of the October 02, 2008 meeting were approved.

Joe Rankin provided council with the due dates for the Distinguished Faculty Fellowships.

Dean Thomas spoke of his meeting with the CLAS Budget Advisory Committee and of the budget situation of the university as a whole. He said that a budget cut to the college of between five hundred thousand and one million dollars seems possible, given the university's four percent drop in enrollment and the resulting eight to nine million dollar budget shortfall. The Board of Governors, he said, wants to cover the deficit with permanent cuts. The dean noted that over ninety-six percent of the college's fifty-five million dollar budget is in personnel.

Arthur Marotti, a member of the CLAS Budget Advisory Committee, said that the committee inquired about the flexibility the college has in spending the Omnibus money that it receives each year. Seymour Wolfson, also a member of the college budget committee, said that the Academic Senate's budget committee has proposed cuts that leave the colleges alone. He said that President Noren will talk to the Senate Policy Committee on November 19 regarding his budgetary plans. Charles Parrish, another member of the college budget committee, said that, since the Senate had no idea of the president's budgetary plans, the Senate made its proposal as a way to present an alternative to across the board cuts.

Several ideas for budgetary savings and revenue enhancements were proposed by members of council.

Seymour Wolfson and Don Haase discussed the new commencement procedures that are under discussion. They noted that President Noren wants every student's name to be read, and that the only way this can happen is if the commencement is segmented by college.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45.