

Senate Notes: April 8, 2009

Dear AP Council,

What follows are the notes from the April 8, 2009 Academic Senate meeting. For the most part this was a brief meeting. We heard a presentation from Danielle Lindsey and Danielle Miller-Schuster concerning the Year One Committee. They have created an organization framework that coordinates "Orientation," "Involvement/Leadership," "Life Skills Support," "Curricular," and "Academic Support" wings. President Bowman was very complimentary in the role this kind of thing plays in keeping our graduation and retention rates high.

The President noted, briefly, that the "draconian measures" lately proposed by our Governor were "very, very serious," but were not yet on the legislative agenda. Again, he accentuated the positive, saying, "Our best days are ahead of us." Drs. Everts and Adams were absent. Dr. Bragg proceeded at some length, finishing with a new "Parking Plan" for the south parking deck near the College of Business. As you can imagine, this resulted in some rather negative comments. When one senator asked about the information meeting the following day and about the possibility of offering some reservations, Dr. Bragg said they would listen but that the decision had been made. If this works, it will be policy for the other parking decks. Some faculty noted how lucky we have been to have had 12 hr. reserved parking, unheard of in most parts. Those with reserved parking spaces were not as positive, but objections were held to sporadic grumbling.

The Planning and Finance Committee offered its "Institutional Goals and Priorities Report." The Priorities appeared as follows:

1. Continue efforts to improve competitiveness of faculty, staff and graduate assistant salaries with the effect of achieving at least peer group median salaries within 3-5 year.
2. Enhance the student experience.
3. Enhance Library resources.
4. Increase Operating Budgets.
5. Continue Efforts in enhancing the safety and security of the campus.
6. Explore expanded programming.
7. Improve facilities.

The meeting had little else of consequence.

Cheers,

Ron

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