

Draft minutes

Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee

3:00 pm Monday – June 23, 2008; Hawai'i Hall 208

Present: Wakayama, Crookes, Hilgers, Tiles, Crosby, Keil

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
2. Keil reported on the MET meeting he attended earlier.

Old Business

1. BS/TIM Singapore, Ltd.: memo sent to VC Ostrander
2. Imbalance of Senate Terms: email from Klaus to Carol Kellett; no action to be taken at this time.
3. Schedule of Senate Meetings, Fall 2008 Semester: location confirmed as Law Classroom 2.
4. SEC Relief Funds Requests. These are G-funds when allocated by the Chancellor's Office. However, SEC members can discuss the funds with their admin officer so that it will be swapped internally with their college/school's S funds. In that way, it can be accumulated/rolled over to the next fiscal year if not exhausted.

New Business

1. Review of UHM committees. A new draft has been circulated (from Heather Crislip, Asst. to the Chancellor). Further input is sought.
2. UH Foundation Director Donna Vuchinich has contacted SEC about the possibility of her addressing the Faculty Senate. SEC will ask her for details of the content of her possible remarks.
3. Proposal for an MA in Ethnic Studies. SEC will refer this to CAPP (normal procedure).
4. Tiles, as liaison for CAB, had circulated minutes of CAB's previous meeting. CAB is concerned with continuing to sort out ORS, and will press the matter with the UHM administration.
5. The Fac Sen budget consists of (a) operations of Fac Sen sectys (approx (\$150k) and (b) Gen Ed Office (this should be approx \$85k). Hilgers was told that the budget for the General Education Office was to be handled, newly, through Ron Cambra's office, (Asst Vice Chancellor, Office for Undergraduate Education) using a base figure from the budget of 2003, about \$65k, which does not take into account raises of secretaries' salaries and overhead since then (and is \$20k less than what had been asked for). The GEO is not administratively under Cambra's office. The SEC Chair is supposed to prepare a budget for the Faculty Senate during May, to be submitted at the beginning of the new fiscal year (July 1). There appears to be a lack of understanding on the part of the administration that the GEO comes under the Faculty Senate, and the head of the GEO is appointed by the SEC.

Meeting with Chancellor Hinshaw, 4:00p

1. Commitment to meeting with Manoa administration to determine campus goals for AY2009. The Chancellor confirmed that Wed 20th August was convenient (1 pm – 5pm).

2. Status of A&S Reorganization.

The Chancellor reviewed some background to the setting up of the two committees that are addressing this, but indicated that she expected herself to be updated on the topic in a meeting that would take place later this week. The Chancellor hopes to secure a search firm after hearing from the committees. Discussion covered familiar territory. The Chancellor expatiated on models for individual retirement, as recently discussed in the *Chronicle for Higher Education*. One trajectory, that positions that become vacant are filled only by adjuncts, was commented upon. It was noted that US higher education overall is now more than 50% staffed by adjuncts. Crosby reported on on-going discussion in one of the committees (the one chaired by Alan Teramura) about how a reorganization can assist with interdisciplinary work through the establishment of clusters of faculty. SEC is worried about the time-frame of this process, and the availability of resources for the A&S decanal hire.

3. Status of Budget Restrictions

The Chancellor reported that MET has considered energy savings; is looking for things that could be “paused”; would welcome ideas for handling the cuts. The legislature has not been helpful in cases where it has merely redirected funds that had already been allocated to UH or UHM to programs of interest to it. She pointed out that nationally, states have been taking huge cuts (Nevada’s was 15-20%). She hopes that UH will be able to be involved in issuing bonds (borrowing money, in other words). The lack of university autonomy was reviewed. The rapidity of swings in state economies was remarked upon.

4. Status of VCAA Confirmation

“Issues in research” are delaying Ostrander’s move from VCRGE; if they are not settled in a timely fashion, the Chancellor will consider having an interim VCAA. SEC asked about how the VCAA position was to be conceptualized. The Chancellor emphasized the need for a close-knit, non-hierarchical team, in which the funds available would be shared. SEC pointed out that the faculty who generate RTRF funds think of it as their own, and are only to be used for supporting the research structure of the university. The Chancellor said that at Davis she did use some RTRF for general purposes. But she noted that at UHM, there was wider use and distribution of RTRF funds. If ORS is returned to the UHM campus, some of the RTRF that goes to the President should come back to UHM as well. SEC asked specifically about whether ORS would be under the VCRGE or the VCAA; the Chancellor said no decision had been made though it would be normal for it to be under the VCRGE. SEC asked about a possible interim VCRGE; the Chancellor

said she had received input previously from the SEC and remained open to input. She agreed that she would consult with the SEC about a future interim appointment.

5. The Chancellor asked if SEC had received the draft list of committees and checked it. (SEC had only received it today and will review in due course.) It was noted that the functions of some of the committees listed were unclear.