FACULTY SENATE STEERING COMMITTEE
AGENDA
February 10, 1998

1. Legislative update. (M. Garner)

2. Request for Senate budget (0.5 or greater FTE for secretary; permanent office and meeting room; phone and fax, filing cabinets, computer, office equipment, etc). (M. Garner)

3. Pending issues (updates needed: Faculty Handbook, Gov. Document, Outreach, Master Senate Calendar etc. PLANS FOR COMPLETING THESE AND THEIR PRESENTATION TO THE SENATE). (M. Garner)

4. Search committee for VP Student Affairs. (M. Garner)

5. Nominating Committee needed. Target a slate for April. (M. Garner)

6. Higher Education Day in Montgomery, March 5th. (M. Garner)

7. ACCUFP to be held March 5-6. (M. Garner)

8. Address given by the Financial Affairs Committee to view the salary figures. (T. Novak)

9. Schedule for meeting with the provost. (T. Novak)

10. Student Affairs Committee (B. Sigler)

The committee met and discussed several issues related to integration. Jim Taylor was absent as he was representing the senate in the budget hearings in Montgomery. Jim asked the committee to table the resolution until he could be present. The committee will address the issue at our next regularly scheduled meeting. The committee discussed the need to be more sensitive to the needs of international students. In particular, it appears that they believe that the recent changes in FAC awards reflects a lack of interest in international students by the University. We also noted that minority students might be receiving the same message. The committee will monitor the progress made by student life, the Student Government Association, and the Task Force on the Freshman year, all of whom have indicated an awareness of the problem and a willingness to address the issue.

11. Financial Affairs Committee (L. Pike)

The Financial Affairs Committee met on February 3rd. The co-chairs informed the committee that President Sorensen has responded that he is abandoning the idea of using the earnings on unspent endowment interest to fund the Development Office and that he would look for additional money elsewhere. The committee had taken a unanimous position opposing the idea.

Other discussion revolved around several salary issues. The committee held an information-sharing discussion of the recently revealed salary equity adjustments for 1997-98. The committee has been asked for recommendations on the method of distribution of an anticipated 1998-99 salary increase, in terms of possible across-the-board or merit increases, or mix of approaches. A discussion of the issue was begun and will continue at the next meeting. The committee agreed that it would incorporate into its recommendations an opinion regarding limiting application of any increase in state appropriations to salary and other expenditures funded by state sources as opposed to expenditures funded by non-state sources. The recommendations will take the form of a resolution and will be brought forward for Senate consideration at its March meeting.

Finally, the committee will request salary data from the deans to look at the issues of gender equity and compression equity.