

FACULTY SENATE

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Faculty Senate Financial Affairs Committee Meeting

September 2, 2003

The regular monthly meeting of the Faculty Senate Financial Affairs Committee took place Tuesday, September 02, 2003, at 3:30 in Room 11 of the Bruno Library.

Present: David Arnold, Catherine Davies*, George Franke*, Lee Pike, Will Schreiber, Jerry Weaver, Ken Wright (*cochairs)

Absent: David Beito, Roy Ann Sherrod (funeral)

The meeting opened with a review of the Senate Bylaws regarding the Financial Affairs Committee. This committee is charged with reviewing financial affairs that are relevant to the University community and makes recommendations regarding these issues.

Catherine Davies reviewed the Salaries, Enhancement, and Reallocation report of the Committee dated December 2002

(<http://www.ua.edu/academic/facsen/docs/BudgetReallocationRecommendations.doc>) . The Committee does not need to take any further action on this report at this time; we are awaiting the outcome of the September 9th vote on Amendment One and a charge from the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

The Committee discussed the VIVA health plan that is being considered by the University, using information provided by Charlotte Harris, Associate Vice President of Human Resources. The following questions about the plan will be communicated to Frannie James of the University's Faculty and Staff Benefits Committee:

(1) How can VIVA possibly offer what appears to be comparable coverage for less money? It sounds too good to be true.

(2) What sort of "emergency coverage" would be available under VIVA if you were out of state? What about driving to Atlanta and having a medical emergency while you were there? What about a medical emergency while you were out of the country?

(3) Do you have data on rates from different institutions where the VIVA self-insured plan is in place? How can we know what the VIVA rates will be?

(4) On the spread sheet, we need to know more about the VIVA coverage for things that are now listed as "not mentioned" or "assumed." Hospice was a specific concern.

Future meetings will be held in Bruno 209. Kerry Kennedy, the recently-appointed Vice President for Financial Affairs at the University, will be invited to address the Committee at its next meeting. The Committee chairs will send email reminders to members a week in advance of each meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15.

(minutes prepared by George Franke.)