Motion for a Faculty Representative in the Budget Process

Be it so moved that the Faculty Senate supports the following proposal:

- The Faculty Speaker (or Speaker’s designee) will be inserted into the annual budgetary process. The Speaker (or Speaker’s designee) will have access to all information required to participate meaningfully in the budgetary process.

- As a participant in the annual budgetary process, the task of the Faculty Speaker will be to consider and make recommendations for budgetary decisions directly affecting the academic affairs of the College.

- The Faculty Speaker will participate in the annual budgetary process once in the fall semester (considering and recommending) and once in the spring semester (review).

- As a participant in the annual budget process, the Faculty Speaker will submit a written report to the Faculty Budget Committee on the progress of the annual budgetary process once in the fall semester and once in the spring semester.

Rationale:

We are gratified by the President’s stated commitment to shared governance at the College. We share his view that we are all working for the common good of the College community. We recognize with him the value of regular communication, transparency, and shared responsibility.

At this time of continuing budgetary concern at the College, a process is needed that will provide for faculty to play a meaningful role in the preparation and consideration of the annual budget. We recognize that the Provost broadly represents the academic interests of the institution. At the same time, we recognize the need for a faculty voice and perspective in the form of direct representation in the budgetary process. The Faculty Speaker is the person best suited to represent the faculty perspective in the budgetary process because the Speaker is the elected representative of all faculty.

Having a faculty representative will permit regular communication and transparency throughout the budgetary process. Direct faculty participation in the budgetary process will encourage fuller understanding and respect for the decision-making process, reinforce a shared vision with the administration, and make the College a better place to work.