Members Present: Melissa Hughes (Chair), Morgan Koerner (Secretary), Bob Mignone, Celeste Lacroix, David Mann, Deborah Miller, James Neff, Katina Strauch, Leslie Sautter

Agenda Items

IT issues from Spring 2009

- The President informed the committee that he had passed on the comments from the April 2009 meeting to Bob Cape and Steve Osborne.
- The President suggested bringing a representative from IT to meet with the FAC.
- The committee notified the President of problems that faculty and staff have had with the new Banner Finance System, which has proven very difficult to use.

Mold in the Science Building The committee informed the President of the continuing problems with mold in the science building. According to faculty that teach in the building, attempts to fix the problem have been cosmetic and have failed to solve the mold problem entirely.

- The President noted that he has asked several times about the mold problem and has been assured that they are looking for leaks and problems and fixing them.
- The committee noted that there should be large room humidifiers in the classrooms at all times, but that this is not the case because they are often repurposed.
- A discussion ensued about the feasibility of renovating an entire half of the building. The committee noted that it would be necessary to act quickly on the renovation of the science building once faculty move to the new science building, otherwise the newly vacant space will be occupied by others.
- The committee asked the President to consider the impact on junior science faculty, if renovation plans call for the old science building to be closed for renovation in the summer, accommodating faculty who would not have access to their labs (either by relocating them or setting back their tenure clock).

The Strategic Plan

- The President informed the committee that the next key phase will be the creation of an Action Plan that specifies priorities for the next three years and fits the ongoing strategic planning inside of each year’s budget process.
- A change in the financial model of the college is crucial for the plan, so that the College can move ahead no matter the state’s budget situation. The Board of Trustees will meet in the spring to decide on the financial model, and the President intends to demonstrate how under-funded the College is before then.
- The President discussed continued state-wide efforts to provide regulatory relief to the state’s public universities.
- The committee raised the issue of regulations that impact academic programs. The President stressed the need to work with CHE as a partner in advocating for Higher Education in SC, while continuing to promote programmatic enhancements to better serve the mission of the College.

The next FAC meeting is set for 3pm, December 2nd, 2009.
Morgan Koerner
Secretary
FAC 2009/2010