Speaker Aronson called the meeting to order at 2:37 p.m. The agenda was amended to add President’s Report and Provost’s Report. The agenda was approved as amended. The minutes of January 27, 2004 were approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* The Provost was thanked for providing refreshments.
* The Speaker welcomed the following guests: President Hughes, Vice Provost Demetrulias, Vice President Ruud, Associate Vice President Wendt, Vice President Stephens, Executive Assistant Polhemus and Reporter Melanie Turner from the Modesto Bee.
* From E-mail to Earthquakes - Dawn Poole is a co-author.
* Budget forum this Thursday in MSR 130
* COC preference form due this week. Please send to the Academic Senate Office.
* Input on Strategic goals and priorities is desired.

QUESTIONS ABOUT REPORTS

NONE

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Information from President - from Board of Trustees, Chancellor - Presidents. There is optimism from the Chancellor about the Governor and his staff and their attitude toward the CSU. There are 5 vacancies on the Board of Trustees. We have been asked to help identify prospects. We have never had a BOT member from this part of the valley. Four names were forwarded and they were a diverse group of names. If there are additional names Senators feel should be put forward, please send to President Hughes. There may be two more vacancies this spring.

March meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at Fresno - likely an 11% fee increase for undergraduates. BOT has developed fee principles - asking for moderation in fee increases in the future.

At the Board of Trustees meeting there will be a proposal to rename the classroom building to the Dorothy Bizzini Hall. Bizzini made a deferred gift of $1 million dollars to be used for equipment for the Science II Building. There will also be a proposal for a 5-6-year budgetary compact.

There will be a budget forum Thursday, February 26. Vice Chancellor Lenz will make a presentation. Then a budget-building process like the one we have used in the past will ensue. The Speaker, President, ASI President will participate as well as the co-chairs of UBAC.

We have been preparing a guest editorial on 55, 57, 58. The Chancellor of UC Merced is also involved.

There will be a budget summit in Long Beach Mar 2. The Speaker and ASI
President will be present. We are now operating under the assumption that there will be a possible 5% reduction in FTES target.

A President’s Retreat was held yesterday. Speaker Aronson, Vice President Stephens, Speaker-Elect Filling, Provost Dauwalder attended, as well as other members from the Deans Council. Highlights: mid-year review of programs to see if on target with strategic planning goals identified last year, changed wording from 'physical environment' to "environment," engaged in visioning. There was an effort to develop the history of the university. In the afternoon there were budget projections. The President thanked Filling for putting information on the web.

The President is receiving hundreds of calls from community members relating to coverage in the Modesto Bee. Her staff has had to spend a lot of time responding. However they always respond with accurate information. She has to keep the Board of Trustees apprised and has followed the guidelines of the Board of Trustees. She stated her concern for the University and would never harm it in any way. She says she is here to stay.

Sarraille asked who "we" was in the info bit about BOT candidates - answer Foundation Board and Advisory Board.

Thompson asked if there would be de-admits to reduce the FTES by 5%, or how would it be implemented. The President mentioned the need to fill the new beds in the residence hall. Stephens added that de-admission is not contemplated. Dauwalder concurred. Basically our approach is to adjust our admission deadline dates. In answer to the question about students who have 'wised up' he made a reference to students that are less qualified, but said he hoped that the reductions will come about as a result of movement of the deadlines. Thompson said that if students are to be redirected, there should be consultation over criteria for redirection of students. He thinks it could happen easily that there not be consultation. Thompson used as an example that students who need remediation might be redirected. Aronson pointed out that the Chairs of GC and UEFC are consulting with Pugh about such matters.

PROVOST REPORT: Pass until discussion of Summer.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

   a. Bookstore (V.P. Stephens)

Vice President Stephens distributed a handout explaining how textbook ordering works. She stated that she wanted to make used textbooks available to students as much as possible. The bookstore can buy students’ used books at a higher price if it knows quite early that a book will be used in the next semester. She asked if the early dates requested for book orders were realistic. Filling replied no because faculty often can’t look at a book until July for Fall classes, so they can’t make a decision before then.

Cunha advised that here is an ASI book exchange that brokers books for students. It works much like a consignment.
Questions and Concerns:

- Sarraille mentioned that used books can be purchased online.
- Other bookstores should sell text books to make it more competitive.
- It is important to know the information about the books being bought from students get a higher price. It would be good to tell the faculty that fact. Maybe giving them that information when book order forms are sent to faculty.
- There is a possibility of renting books.
- It might help if there was a way to say that you want a book to be used for the course "until further notice".
- Could the date that the store buys books be moved back to the beginning of the next semester?
- It would help to hang on to current editions - not purchase new editions with superficial changes.
- Would a faculty member be allowed to arrange for students to buy a book from another printer? Students probably should not buy the book directly from the instructor.
- Get paperbacks when possible.
- Barnes and Noble charges 25% over publisher cost.
- Make the time for faculty to have to order books earlier and make the time students have to purchase books later.
- Faculty can use Blackboard for booklets that are created.

Stephens thanked faculty for their input.

b. Facility/Event Scheduling (V.P. Stephens/Clyta Polhemus)

Vice President Stephens advised that there is a lot of non-campus interest in using our facilities - weddings - other events, and the university housing and union are dependent on revenue from this. There is a process posed for doing the scheduling on the handout. They want to try out the policy and see how it works (pilot program) They want to make sure that those affected financially get reimbursed (custodial, police, OIT, etc). There is a need to make it self-supporting and to find out what all the costs are. There is now an advisory committee meeting regularly for oversight of the six month pilot program.

The money helps us defray some of our other costs - the renting of housing over the summer helps pay for the housing costs for the rest of the year.

Aronson questioned if it involves the JSRFDC, and Polhemus answered no. Also the Speaker notes there are no faculty on the committee. Stephens said that if faculty are interested, someone could be chosen.

Floyd wanted to know if there was a definition that says what spaces will be schedulable. Stephens said that classes and testing would have priority over other uses. Floyd says his program schedules special events that are associated with a course but are not part of a course. He wonders what the priority would be. The answer is that such a thing would have high priority and that there would be no fees for this. Floyd pointed out that considerations such as this would be easier to
handle if there were faculty on the advisory committee.

O'Brien asked how other needs were going to be handled once things are scheduled. What happens if things are scheduled far in advance and then academic needs come up? Answer was that the question of how early things have to be scheduled was under consideration.

It was questioned how much money is taken in, and what is done with it? Stephens says first need is to pay back for services. There is no excess revenue at this time. However the excess money would go into the campus funds. There was a complaint that departments cannot afford to put on events. Stephens noted that departments are not charged for rental or custodial service. We would charge for food service, and if alcohol is served Public Safety must be involved. Stephens stated that in the past, we have not charged enough. Sarraillie voiced concern that we don’t want to lose money. It’s like starting a new business. Stephens agreed, and that is why we are changing the fee structure. Aronson asked that Senators share this information with their departments.

The President mentioned that a committee is starting to look at what to do with the Yosemite Hall property.

c. Overview of Summer 04 (Provost Dauwalder)

Provost Dauwalder explained how the campus will deal with Summer 04. Numbers: All of these estimates are tied to budget projections. There is the option of doing summer with UEE or as YRO, or some combination. Between 5.5 and 6 million dollars will be our reduction. There are fixed costs such as health benefits. 334 FTES has to be cut - about 5.1%. New floor is no less than 1% below the assigned target. The new ceiling is not known but it is wise to be right on target. UBAC has been discussing how to distribute the cuts - averaging about 9%. Provost thinks the rest of the University has been kind to the academic side. There is talk about reducing the academic side by the same amount as the 5% target reduction. This requires about 12-14% reductions elsewhere. Departments will be asked to consider 8-14-20% cuts.

There is the question of self-support for just this summer or this summer and next summer. The decision was made before to go to YRO. Now we are trying to see what the effects would be of running summer session out of UEE. Three effects - we had FTES of 353 last summer - looking for 334 reduction - apply it to the summer. Take the 334 as our summer enrollment - on self-support. Then the idea is we could serve the “normal number” of FTES in the other terms. When we reduce budget by 5% we have to make reductions in many temporary faculty positions - that cause about a 9-10% class reduction in the number of classes offered. This raises the FSR.

The Provost stated that 17.2 FTEF is the difference between going UEE summer and YRO summer.

The 2357 pay option would have to be used instead of 1/30 of the contract or 1/24 of the contract. Three or four years ago UEE charged higher fees and paid the faculty less. We would be required this time to charge the same fees as for regular terms.
Before about 8K for a 3 unit class - under new terms something like 5K
It something like a 20% pay cut for faculty.

Executive orders -- incremental costs have to be covered - have to
reimburse the offices on campus that provide support. They are looking
at anticipated actual costs. Trying to keep the amount of "overhead"
paid as low as possible -- e.g. half the staffing cost in UEE.

Looking at making UEE a subset of enrollment services and bring into
the colleges under program development.

There may be a per-student assessment for overheads. Overhead costs
for the colleges are expected to vary slightly.

Filling asked about the effects on faculty. Faculty have to work for
60-70% under this plan. Also you need to base the comparison with 1/24
not 1/30. CFA’s position is follow the dictates of your conscience.
Let students know what is going on. The talk of a 5% cut does not
include this pay cut that the faculty would undergo in summer. Filling
warns faculty to beware of being offered less pay in the future too.

In answer to the President’s earlier invitation to suggest candidates
for BOT, Filling put forward the names of past CFA President
Meisenhelder and UFW co-founder Dolores Huerta be recommended to the
BOT.

Thompson asked if the pay rates the Provost referred to were full
enrollment pay. Dauwalder said yes, the figures he quoted are for
classes that are fully enrolled. Thompson asked if there was an
estimate of a reduction in courses offered in summer due to reduced pay
and reduced desire of faculty to teach. The Provost said it is
encouraged to balance low and high enrollment courses - "subsidize"
low-enrolled courses with high-enrolled courses. Thompson voiced
objection to the idea that there may be ‘excess revenue’ generated by
paying faculty less in the summer. The Provost stated that he would
like to create a fund to provide assigned time for faculty who perform
program leadership, etc, and to support faculty with continuing
education reserve funds. Thompson replied the excess money should go to
the people that are teaching the classes.

Sarraille advised that UBAC is not doing much - not deciding on the
order of cuts - we don't really have an overview of where the "pain" is
being distributed. Invisibility for students [holding them harmless]
sounds good, but what about invisibility for high-paid executives? At
some stage, we should look at cutting executive positions since the
ranks have grown so much.

ASI voiced their support to keep summer and financial aid and
appreciate what the faculty may decide to do for them.

O’Brien asks what we are doing with the idea to go to UEE. Are we
doing this to help temporary faculty save their jobs? The Provost said
that there is also the possibility that tenure-track faculty could be
cut.
It was asked what happens if less instructors teach and less students show up? The Provost replied that all we need to do is to cover costs.

There was concern about coming back to state support summer -- how do we make a transition?

Sarraille said that the administration should come up with a way to cut the executive salaries and that ASI should see if they can support that.

Poole noted that the salary savings from the administrator that is leaving should be used for instructional needs.

Regalado agreed with Sarraille that administrative positions should be looked at.

Feldman said we should go to the next AS meeting and discuss ideas for what can be cut.

Aronson pointed out that the forum would be a good place to make those suggestions.

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.