

**BSUFA Meet and Confer**  
**05 March 2007**

**Administration Members Present:** Jon Quistgaard, BSU President, Joanne Fredrickson, Provost for Academic Affairs, Bill Maki, Vice President for Administrative Affairs, David Carlson, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, Bob Griggs, Interim Assoc. Vice President for Information Technology, Dean Nancy Erickson, Dean Carol Neilson, Dean Ranae Womack.

**IFO Members Present:** Elizabeth Dunn, President, Chris Brown Susan Hauser, Kathy Meyer, Deb Peterson, Janeth Skinner, Derek Webb, Rod Witt, Tom Fauchauld, Chair, IFO Budget Committee, Carol Milowski, Recorder.

The Meet and Confer came to order at 4:30. Provost for Academic Affairs Joanne Fredrickson indicated the Academic Deans would be present for the IFO Budget Response and then excused. The Agenda was reordered while the **BSUFA Budget Response**, Agenda Item I, was being copied.

Fredrickson spoke to the **Positions Update for Faculty**, Agenda Item II. The 3M Accounting position is being readvertised, faculty positions in Business Administration, English and Nursing are being released, and there are new faculty positions in Nursing and Philosophy. Bill Maki, Vice-President for Administrative Affairs spoke of the three (3) new positions in Residential Life, a Business Advisor in MAPE, and Stationary Engineer in AFSCME. (See Addendum Item I to the print edition.)

Fredrickson indicated that the **NSSE Survey Results**, Agenda Item XII, is available and in Ivan Weir's office. She wants to get the material about student engagement out to the campus. The data should also help in planning for the HLC Reaccreditation Visit in 07 – 08. Dunn asked if the results would be part of the **March 29, 2007 Planning Duty Day**. However, Fredrickson said the day will be used for an update on Scenerio Planning.

Fredrickson said that 2007-08 is a year of preparation for the **HLC Reaccreditation**, Agenda Item XI. The criteria has changed since BSU's last accreditation; she will bring a preliminary committee structure to the next Meet and Confer.

Deb Peterson, IFO Treasurer, asked for an IFO caucus. The IFO members caucused outside the meeting room. Chris Brown left the meeting.

The IFO returned from caucus, and the meeting resumed with a return to the agenda and Agenda Item I, **the BSUFA Budget Response**.

IFO President Elizabeth Dunn presented the **BSUFA Budget Response** as approved by the faculty Senate. She said individual departmental responses are included with the document for the information of the Administration but are not part of the official response. She called attention to areas of the response of particular concern. The first area was with **“held faculty positions”** and whether or not instructional cuts are

“equitable” with cuts made in other parts of the university (pg. 8 of the Budget Response). There is concern about a “pattern” replacing probationary positions with fixed term positions and then saying there has been no retrenchment. This pattern along with other budget realignments such as the summer school profit cuts may make BSU’s IPED’s data comparing instructional and noninstructional costs worse. Maki said “some departments may feel as if they have taken a cut” but overall it will not be an instructional cut such as summer school money “will be redistributed to other departments.”

As to the IPED’s data, Fredrickson said it “may be worse” due to earlier change in coding for faculty working outside the classroom. Maki and Fredrickson said this change will help BSU with its cost study, just as it has helped other universities. Tom Fauchauld, IFO Budget Chair, said BSU’s high non-instructional costs are raising questions downstate. Carol Milowski, IFO Secretary, said if other universities are also coding faculty as BSU is presently (according to Maki) and their instructional/noninstructional costs are not out of alignment, BSU still has a problem. There was general disagreement as to whether or not the budget cuts will help or hurt the IPED’s data.

Dunn said the IFO still needed to see the adjunct/fixed term budgets.

The second area of the budget response of concern was the **Athletic Budget** (pg. 9 of the Budget Resposne). Dunn reported that there was concern on the part of some faculty at Senate as to the accuracy of the wording of the two criteria about Division I Hockey; she read:

Our underatanding is that Division I Men’s hockey will remain part of our athletic program if and only if two conditions are met by May 1, 2008: \$2.5 million in new money must be pledged to support the program, and we must gain admission to the WCHA (pg. 9, Budget Response).

BSU President Jon Quistgaard said the wording of the conditions is “accurate”; Dunn said the IFO endorses the two criteria.

The next area of conern is the Curricular Proposals and the request to delay some of these until May 8, 2007, so that faculty have time to analyze them (pg. 10 of the Budget Response) and the request for a Curricular Liaison (pg. 11 of the Budget Response) to work with the Curricular Committee.

Dunn then referred the Administration to the Executive Summary of all the Actions and Requests for Information in the Response (pg. 3 of the Budget Response).

Fredrickson accepted the Budget Response andf took it under advisement. She thanked the IFO for its effort in making a considered response. (See Addendum II to the print edition)Dunn asked about the responses from other bargaining units. Fredrickson said MSUAASF has responded, and she believes the responses can be shared if both groups agree.

Dunn asked if any budget alternatives are being considered should there be a significant change in the assumptions used to create the budget proposal. Quistgaard said they are “watching tuition discussions,” but “there is no plan B at this time.”

The Deans left the meeting.

The agenda was reordered to consider **academic freedom, professional development funds, and new technologies**, Agenda Item VII. Bob Griggs, Interm Associate Vice President of Information Technology, explained the delay in ordering software a faculty member was buying with Professional Development Funds. Rod Witt, IFO Grievance Officer, emphasized the need for faculty to make their own determinations as to needed materials. Griggs left the meeting.

Fredrickson said she would use a process similar to the last one for filling a **Dean vacancy**, Agenda Item III. The position will be a one-year interim appointment with a potential one-year extension open to campus and system-wide candidates. This will give BSU time to look at the college structure before permanent hiring is done. Dunn took this under advisement.

Dunn raised the issue of **Dual Faculty Appointments**, Agenda Item IV, and some of the difficulties they present. There was general discussion and agreement about the need to review the IFO Contract. This was an information only item.

Dunn asked about **long-term retirement replacement plans**, Agenda Item V. Fredrickson said there is “no intent” to reduce the overall number of faculty by 2010 other than what has already been identified in the Budget Proposal. But faculty positions “may be reallocated” within departments and programs, and the new hires “will be probationary.”

There was general discussion of the **university-wide committee committee charges**, Agenda Item VI, and the **need for a faculty member to serve on the calendar committee**, Agenda Item VIII. There was agreement that the AAPC Committee should meet to process assessment plans and a faculty member from the IFO Academic Affairs Committee will serve on the calendar work group.

Dunn reported that the **Emeritus Status Proposal**, Agenda Item IX, is going to Faculty Senate. Milowski asked if MSUAASF was reviewing a similar proposal; Fredrickson said MSUAASF had the same proposal given to the faculty, but it worked a little differently for them. This was taken under advisement by the Administration.

Fredrickson reviewed the **timelines for PDP’s, promotion, tenure, and renewal**, Agenda Item X. She indicated these would be “rolled over” into 2008 using the normal calendar changes. She asked the IFO to help identify any “red-flags” with the roll over dates. This was taken under advisement.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.