

BSUFA Meet & Confer
January 30, 2008

Present:

L. Mengelkoch, K. Meyer, C. Brown, M. Wolf, D. Peterson, D. Webb,
E. Dunn, S. Hauser, J. Quistgaard, J. Frederickson, L. Erwin

1. Elizabeth Dunn distributed copies of the BSUFA response to college and departmental reorganization. The document is in four parts:
 - a. Cover memo and formal BSUFA response (approved by the BSUFA Senate).
 - b. Attachments
 - i. Summary of departmental responses
 - ii. Academic Affairs Committee report, including a summary of the survey of academic department chairs (received by BSUFA Senate)
 - iii. Graduate Committee report (received by BSUFA Senate)
 - iv. Resolutions from the Budget Committee (approved by BSFUA Senate)

(Note: Full texts of departmental responses and all committee reports are available at the BSUFA web site. SCH)

Dr. Dunn briefly explained the documents.

2. Provost Frederickson accepted the documents and thanked faculty organizations and committees and other individuals and groups that participated in the responses. She then explained the options currently on the table:
 - a. Continue to look at college models this spring, including the four-college model which has some intriguing elements.
 - b. Making no change to the college structure is also a consideration.
3. Dr. Frederickson proposed a four-step process for the next phase of reorganization:
 - a. Immediate but limited department redefinition (detailed in her handouts): four designated departments/programs

- (Economics, Theatre/Communication Arts, Philosophy, and Indian Studies) will join with other departments.
- b. Voluntary department redefinition: departments not designated may propose to join other departments or to separate from their current departments. Departments must have the equivalent of at least five full-time faculty (in the IFO contract, five members triggers chair reassigned time though there is some uncertainty presently re. departments with more than four and less than five).
 - c. Final considerations and decisions will be made on college reorganization.
 - d. A second round of departmental redefinitions may be necessary, based on college reorganization.
4. Dr. Frederickson noted that department redefinition is moved forward in order to meet a contract deadline for that kind of action. College reorganization is not subject to the deadline.
5. Regarding the time line, the Provost requests the following:
- a. Responses in writing from designated departments and “volunteer” departments by February 11.
 - b. Those responses presented in a final proposal from the administration at a single-item Meet and Confer on February 13.
 - c. If departments which are reorganizing now request, we will sign a two-week extension of the March 1 deadline, otherwise;
 - d. Announcement by the administration of the department redefinitions by the March 1 contract deadline.
6. Frederickson noted that the department redefinitions as proposed, i.e., with a five FTE minimum rather than twelve FTE minimum, funds will not be available for a four college or four dean model.
7. Dunn thanked the Provost for her proposal and for the unprecedented and valuable conversation undertaken with the faculty on proposed reorganization.

Notes submitted by Susan Hauser, Senate Recorder