President’s Report

Faculty Senate

08/20/12

* Many thanks for your service to the university in the Senate as well as one its standing committees
* As has been our practice, we will share with the senate current issues, and future perspectives. We will also use the Senate as a location for answering questions that may come from you or your constituents that were not heretofore anticipated. For example, Changes in institutional employment antidiscrimination statements last year came from an inquiry made by the Senate about current policies.
* As noted in the president’s opening comments last week, processes for review of budget and facilities will continue and where possible improved (budget discussions will begin earlier; facility reviews will also be considered for earlier review.
* Based on communication from the chancellor’s office, an early topic for consideration by the planning and budget advisory council will be potential reduction considerations. The instructions from the chancellor’s office read in part: “The Chancellor expects your reduction plans, in as much as possible, to protect core academic functions and services directly impacting students. Reductions should first come from central and nonacademic functions as well as carry forward balances. Further, your reduction plan should reflect the academic priorities of your institution. Low priorities should be considered for reduction or elimination. Highest priorities, including those presented during internal budget hearings, should be protected. Reduction plans and actions taken to achieve the reductions will be discussed at the next round of budget hearings as part of the FY 2014 allocation process. Please make sure your reduction plans reflect these priorities or we will need to revise them before they are approved. “ We believe that our plan (Professor Keebler was copied on the plan) complied with those instructions (although lapsed salary sections may need some further explanation).
* Updates on strategic planning will be shared for your consideration in the coming week. Discussions about progress in meeting plan goals led to proposals for greater focus during the coming year. More information about opportunities for review will be forthcoming.
* Again, thanks for your willingness to serve