

Members absent: R. Anderson, R. Griffin, D. Noren, J. Rumpf, R. Ryan, J. Totten, J. Wheeler, D. Wininger.

Guests: K. Hammerle, R. Hess, V. Parker, L. Steppers.

### **New Business**

Discussion on the Task Force plan continued.

von der Osten stated that the Construction Department in general agreed with the recommendations made by the plan. The department had provided added data.

Valas, referring his rewritten amendment (see Appendix 4), suggested the second part of the new amendment would fit after Section 2.5 on page 2. He agreed to split the amendment into two components. Valas accepted Lewis' friendly amendment adding "It is proposed the Senate" to the beginning of sentence 1 and changing "down the proper path" to "towards its goals." Valas accepted Kebler's friendly amendment to strike the sentence "This means . . . and other staff." Valas suggested the second section of the amendment appear on page 11 after "What Broad Based Actions . . . Problem?" In voting on the first part of the amendment, the amendment failed. In voting on the second part of the amendment, the amendment carried unanimously.

von der Osten presented an amendment to Section 1.1 (see Appendix 5). Keys seconded. Uniacke stated all received material will be included with the senate report. Nagel offered a friendly amendment to strike the word "only" from the second sentence, to strike "However, it is the position of the Senate that," to change "has a" to "maintains a," to change "will provide" to "provides," "allow" to "allows," "offer" to "offers," "allow" to "allows," "help" to "helps," and remove "a" before "greater consensus." von der Osten accepted. The amendment carried.

Pomnichowski moved to add "The CAS review their department structure with the view of reducing departments from 6 to 5" to p. 30. Valas seconded. Oldfield requested a division of the house. The amendment carried: 19 in favor - 8 opposed.

Uniacke brought back the original motion to adopt the document as the senate response to the Fiscal Restructuring Plan. Pomnichowski moved to divide the document and vote separately on pp. 1-5 and the remainder of the document. Smith determined that to do this the senate must vote to suspend the rules with a 2/3 margin. Pomnichowski withdrew the motion.

The original motion to adopt the document carried: 27 in favor, 1 opposed.

Uniacke stated the revised document will be forwarded to all senators, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Elliott Smith, the library, and the senate office. A memo discussing distribution of the document will go to all faculty. Extra copies will be made for the impending conference committee, the composition of which will be discussed at the October 4 senate meeting.

Nagel moved to adjourn the meeting. Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Stolarek

Approved:

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(Insert after "LONG TERM GOALS" heading. p.4)

Restructuring at the university is an essential component to put Ferris on the road to fiscal health. It must be recognized, however, that neither the administrative plan nor the senate response will come close to a total solution. The senate document contains a strategic direction that, if followed and successfully implemented, will move the university down the proper path.

Paramount to the suggestions provided in the senate plan are the statements about productivity. FSU must improve productivity across the entire organization. This means that more students and credit hours must be taught with fewer faculty, administrators, and other staff. It means that enrollment must be optimized in programs generating more revenue than cost and new programs doing this must be created.

To prevent further divisiveness and rancor, further reductions in professional staff, including faculty, will have to be made through natural attrition and additional buyouts. Ferris must develop and model a plan of enrollment increases and staff reductions over the next five years sufficient to insure a balanced budget concurrent with providing increases in salaries, restoring S&E to adequate levels, providing funding for equipment replacement, faculty and staff development, and developing the funding, seed money, and incentives for new program creation.

(Insert after "ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESTRUCTURING" heading. p.18)

It should be noted that reducing and/or eliminating a program does not necessarily save the university money in the amount of the cost of the program. Reasons for this include:

- the entire amount of the program cost cannot generally be recovered
- the phase-out of any program will have revenues falling faster than costs during the phase-out process
- the real reductions in revenue may exceed the savings in cost realized
- the phase-out may effect enrollment in other programs and students (due to negative publicity)
- other related areas of the university (primarily the housing areas, but also revenue producers such as the bookstore) may incur revenue losses due to the decreased enrollment
- other costs may consume a portion of the savings

1.1 The following is the response by the Senate to the Administration's proposal for fiscal restructuring. It represents ~~only~~ the considered response of the Senate and is not intended to supplant the responses of Colleges, Departments, or Programs. ~~However, it is the position of the Senate that Ferris State University is best served when the Senate, as a representative body,~~ <sup>has a</sup> ~~has a~~ significant role in any deliberations on the direction of this institution. The appropriate and timely use of the Senate will provide the institution with more information, allow for a critical review process, offer a forum for an open debate that will allow more positions to be represented, and help build ~~a~~ greater consensus.

Change... What process...

to What process was employed by the Senate Task Force in Drafting the Initial Report.

2.1 Delete.... The report of this Task Force

Change to .... This report

2.2 Delete This Task Force attempted to

Change to This report attempts to place the response