University of Colorado Denver
FACULTY ASSEMBLY
Humphreys Lounge
Tuesday, July 29, 2003

Agenda

11:30 a.m.  Meeting called to order
            Dr. Mike Glode

11:45 a.m.  Chancellor's Report
            Dr. James Shore

12:15 p.m.  University Benefits Advisory Board
            Dr. Stuart Schneck

Office of Academic Affairs Reductions and Videoconferencing Fees
Marguerite Childs, Jim Huff

UCD & UCD Consolidation

Action Item – Auditor Report

President Hoffman's The State of the University of Colorado – Power
Point Presentation dated 5/6/03
Dr. Laurie Shroyer

Faculty Severance Pay – Dr. Laurie Shroyer

President Hoffman's Faculty Retirement Options Ad Hoc Committee
Dr. Laurie Shroyer

12:45 p.m.  School Reports

01:30 p.m.  Adjournment
Due to significant budget reductions in Fiscal Year 2002-2003, the Office of Academic Affairs has been forced to examine the current utilization of videoconferencing services, operations, and anticipated increases in services with the development of the Fitzsimons campus. Accordingly, a new auxiliary model to support videoconferencing will be implemented effective July 1, 2003. The Office of TeleHealth TeleEducation has been reorganized and will be integrated into the Office of Educational Support Services. We continue to be committed to supporting video connectivity within the campus, with our partners and throughout the state, region, country, and world. However, these services will be based on a fee structure that is not subsidized by the Health Sciences Center. The new fee structure will include an annual access fee for regular users, such as the Health Sciences Center schools, Children's Hospital, University of Colorado Hospital, etc. The annual access fee will cover basic connectivity for these users based on utilization of video services in Fiscal Year 2002-2003. If conferences require staffing or special setup, there will be a fee for this service. Non-regular users from outside the HSC System will be charged hourly port fees for each site involved in a conference. These charges will be billed directly to the department or organization requiring access.

Campus Consolidation report on the Agenda. We discussed this in April in a joint meeting with the FA at UCD and a number of critical issues were raised. As far as I can see, none of them were addressed. Discussion vs. vote. [http://www.cusys.edu/consolidation/report.pdf]

Action Item: audit policy (previously distributed via email)

Dr. Laurie Shroyer - Revenue Forecasts (email from Tanya Kelly-Bowry, Asst Vice President, State & Federal Government Relations):

Legislative Council and OSPB released their new state revenue forecasts June 20, 2003. The projections differ significantly due to variations in assumptions about the new federal bail out dollars given to Colorado. When the legislature is not in session it is primarily the Governor's job to keep the budget in balance. The Governor of course relies on the OSPB forecast. This is significant because the OSPB forecast indicates that no additional cuts are needed in FY 02/03 and that the $97 million reduction needed in FY 03/04 can be accommodated without reducing the state's reserve to less than the statutorily required level of 2%. That means no more programmatic cuts for FY 03-04 which is great news for higher education.

The Legislative Council forecast does not include either the $130 million federal bail out reserve established by the Governor or the $92 million of new Medicaid funding made available by the feds. The OSPB forecast does assume that the $92 million will be used to balance the budget. The Governor's budget director, Nancy McCallin, also stated that the $130 million federal bail out reserve established by the Governor would be used to absorb any additional revenue reductions beyond the $97 million already required in FY 03/04.

The $92 million in federal Medicaid dollars as well as the $130 million federal bail out reserve are both one-time pots of money. Using these funds to balance the budget will push the need for additional budget cuts into future fiscal years.

Beginning in FY 04/05, the legislature could also choose to again eliminate the statutorily required transfer to capital construction ($102 million) and/or delay the repayment of the state's Controlled Maintenance Trust Fund ($138 million). If both options were pursued, the need for additional cuts in FY 04/05 would either be eliminated (based on the Legislative Council forecast) or reduced (based on the OSPB forecast). The state's Economist, Tom Dunn, also noted that a portion of the state's revenue shortfall could be attributed to the federal tax cut package. The two forecasts also predict future transfers to both SB 1 (transportation funding) and TABOR refunds.

Nancy McCallin commented that the state's financial situation is stabilizing for the first time in 2 years. Individual tax withholding and corporate income tax are stabilizing. She also noted that the Governor has made it a priority to protect program funding and avoid additional reductions. We will keep you posted.

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT:

SCHOOL REPORTS: