

Senate Subcommittee on Objective 2 (Enhance and sustain core aspects of faculty life at CNU, including exemplary teaching and learning, significant scholarship, and meaningful service).

Informal “minutes” taken at our Sept. 25, 2008 meeting:

1. “Work with provost...center for innovative teaching excellence”

2a (Enhance Faculty Teaching) We think pressing the administration for something like this at a time when budgets are about to be cut would not be appropriate. However, we can relay our interest so that it could be considered when money becomes available. We also thought that additional teaching innovations could be realized if IT sponsored workshops on the use of Blackboard.

- Assessing the impacts of ULLC section requirements on department course offering could be approached through Institutional Research; we should be able to get information that way

2b (Enhance resources for faculty scholarship and intellectual growth) We think that finding additional resources in this area will be very difficult given the state of the budget. We also know that the Sponsored Programs office is understaffed, making it difficult to support what we currently have let alone trying to significantly increase grants and awards. We could suggest that this office be given more resources so that in the future additional resources might be allocated in this direction.

- library resources need to be enhanced, but budgets are the problem especially since every time there is a budget shortfall, the library budget for new holdings gets trimmed. We could find out what SACS and SCHEV require regarding standards for university libraries, especially when we are trying to reach Phi Beta Kappa status.

2c (Enhancing and defining faculty service) How to encourage more equitable distribution of service jobs is a difficult proposition. We probably should not automatically place new faculty into service jobs since we should want to have the best people in important positions. But, we could ask the deans and department chairs for appropriate recommendations.

2d (a new task—Course Caps) What has happened here? Have they been increasing? By how much and over what time period? We should be able to get information on this from Institutional Research. It may be that even with reduced course loads, student numbers per faculty member are no different now than in the past. And, consider the near future when budget cuts may lead to even higher cap levels.