11-3 President's report

- A. Budget for Faculty Development Grants for Spring 2007: the Provost has indicated that he is "almost certain" that he can allot \$15,000 in the spring round to FDGs. The difficulty here is that whenever possible, he tries to take FDG funds from E&G accounts, thus allowing the faculty development funds generated by grant activity (in overheads/indirect cost recoveries) to grow—the goal is to get this pot of nonreverting funds in a healthy enough condition that it can be used for "rainy days". However, grant activity has decreased substantially on campus (from \$2.2 million to \$800K with the recent expiration of a NASA grant), and, therefore, so has the amount of overhead flowing into this account.
- B. Update re grade of "unauthorized incomplete" passed by the Senate last month: approved by the Provost in the form sent to him by the Senate.
- C. Report re provost-search consulting firm's 11/1/06 visit to CNU: Dr. Jay Berger and Ms. Kris Morris visited CNU on Wednesday. They toured the campus and met with administrators reporting to the provost, the dean of CLAS (LSOB dean was out of town), faculty and staff in an open forum/ working lunch, the President, and the Search Committee. They were impressed with both the campus and the people. At every stage of the process, at every level, they heard a remarkably similar story about the university, its identity, its aspirations, and the qualities it desires in its next provost. They will begin their recruitment work immediately, and will update the search committee on their progress at least weekly. We are communicating names of applicants to them to avoid duplication of effort.

In addition, the university will be sending out 1,800 solicitation letters to provosts, deans, associate deans, and department chairs at the top 100 liberal arts and sciences schools by the end of next week. I have also sent the final ad to all faculty and asked them to please forward the ad to anyone they feel might be interested, or to make recommendations to us so that we can add that person to our contact list. We expect to begin reviewing applications Dec. 11. A CNU webpage is being maintained for the benefit of the provost applicants.

D. Subcommittee liaisons for next BoV meeting on 11/10/06:

Guajardo (Academic Affairs)

Whiting (Development)

Vachris (Finance) – needs a sub

Adamitis (Student Affairs)—Knipp will sub for her.

Schwarze Full Board—Whiting will do

- E. Followup re ULLC100 as prerequisite for ULLC223: approved by the Provost with modification to avoid problems for students for whom ULLC 100 is not required. "For all students for whom ULLC 100 is a graduation requirement, ULLC 100 is prerequisite to ULLC 223."
- F. Academic calendar: The academic calendar for next year is posted. It is the "experimental" calendar that the Senate and administration discussed last year—it has been enacted for this year only, and includes fall classes from Aug. 27-Dec 7 with exams ending Dec. 15 and grades due Dec. 17. Spring classes run Jan 21-May 2, with March 8-17 spring break, and exams May 5-10. Grades are due May 12, and graduation is Sunday, May 18. The plan for the Senate to study the calendar issue and make recommendations to the administration regarding PERMANENT calendar change still stands—we now have more time to do that. That's a good thing, since we do not as yet have a recommendation to take forward. I am hopeful that we will have one in December.
- G. Status of Department of Library Sciences: as of June 16, 2006, it became a department with no faculty, as library faculty were offered a choice between instructional-faculty status and professional-faculty status. All took the professional faculty option. As of June 30, the department was dissolved.
- H. Notification of Post Tenure Review: I have talked with the Provost's office about feeding notifications for PTR into our EVAL 2 notification system so that people coming up for PTR receive notification of their spring PTR review in the previous spring, rather than the preceding fall.
- I. Retention Update: New data suggest that accomplishments thus far include reducing the number of first-time full-time freshman on probation by 23.8 percent (our goal was 12% annually for the next 3 years); and raising the first-year retention rate for the 05 cohort to 78.8%, a 4.7% increase over the 04 cohort.
- J. Constituting a group of faculty members as a prioritization committee for budgetary aspects of 3-4 teaching load, sabbaticals, chair compensation, and faculty development grants: The SEC recommends that the committee, called the Priority Advisory Committee, be composed of 4-5 members, all Senators (one from each area), and that this group become a standing committee of the Senate, appointed by the Senate. At least one member of the Executive Committee should be included to ensure communication between the bodies, and if possible, a member of the BAC should be included (if we have a Senator there). The priorities established by this committee as approved by the Senate would be fed into the BAC, after consultation with the Deans and the Provost.

We can appoint this group today if we are ready (after making any necessary modifications to the proposal); its first charge would be to codify itself for the Handbook and then begin prioritizing/costing the initiatives passed by last year's Senate. The SEC suggests that membership include representation from those involved in researching those initiatives such as the chairs' compensation committee, etc. This group should probably report back to the Senate at its January 2006 meeting, so that the Budget Advisory Committee can use this input at its February meeting, so that the level of tuition and fees can be set in March.