Present: Behnke, Hancock, Hartman, Jones, Oberst, Rowlett, Rys, Schumm, Turnley, Verschelden, and Youngman

Absent: Cook, De Bres, Hassan, Lawhon

Visitors: Alfred Cochran, Jim Coffman

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Walter Schumm, Chair, at 3:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Oberst and seconded by Verschelden to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2003 FSCOUP meeting.

III. Announcements
A. Faculty Senate Leadership
Al Cochran deferred his comments until later.

B. Calendar Committee Leadership
Cia Verschelden discussed recent issues being debated within the University Calendar Committee. In support of student requests, the next year’s calendar will include a 2 day fall break and one dead stop day before final examinations. However, these additional days made faculty summers very short and interfered with activities that faculty can only plan during the summer (research, vacations, summer employment, etc.). The committee voted to reduce the fall break to one day and eliminate the dead day unless formally requested by students before the end of this semester.

C. University Leadership
Provost Coffman spoke at length about the budget situation. Initially, the University assumed a 100 Million dollar state budget shortfall for 2004, but that has increased to 235 Million dollars. The University anticipates being able to manage shortfalls through 2004 but if the economy does not improve by FY 2005, more serious problems could result. The conditions in surrounding states were discussed, with most adjacent states being in as or more serious financial difficulty. The importance of the library was emphasized by Cochran and others. Provost Coffman addressed tuition increases, that we expect to ask for approximately a 20% increase next year. John O’Hara (incoming Student Senate President) wanted specific enhancements discussed by students, according to Cochran. The tuition
increases will be used in a variety of ways, as currently anticipated. Some of the increase will be held in reserve, kept as part of the base funding increase, but used either for contingencies or for targeted excellence in the following year. About one million dollars will be used for OOE. About two million dollars will be applied to desperately needed additional course sections, more start-up packages, possible reserve for budget cuts, and for coverage of foundation shortfalls. About 1.5 million dollars will be applied to deal with inflation. The library will be supported with an additional $650,000 with 400K for acquisitions and 250K for operations. Fees will be retained for technology classrooms and 150K will be used for maintenance of the information commons (in addition to the 650K). The library has a 1.1 million dollar shortfall, though, including a need for 600K for high density shelving. Youngman said that various regulations cut space for shelving. The library has increased the number of serials but will have to cut again, even though it is often held hostage by electronic packages of journals. Architecture may add an equipment fee. Verschelden raised the issue of balance between using new tuition money for salary increases versus new programs/equipment. It seems that at present there are no plans to use the new tuition revenue for salary enhancements (merit raises). While the state plan appears to be to require 1.5% merit increases, the funds will have to come out of the regular budget. The objective of using 24% of the increases for student scholarships will continue. The DOW Jones industrial average will have to pass 10,000 to solve the Foundation’s issues. Provost Coffman urged FSCOUF members to read the University’s web page material on targeted excellence. The plan is to target increases rather than giving all colleges the same as the latter approach would dilute the effects of the additional funds. Turnley argues that we may get stranded if the legislature fails to pick up the cost of future merit raises (expecting tuition increases to do that). Tuition increase funds cannot be spent on ESARP. About 90-160 unclassified positions have been left unfilled or lost due to budget cuts. Hancock reported that Education was losing about 3 tenure track positions while leaving open two more. Two classified positions were lost. One doctoral program was cut.

IV. Old Business

A. Reports from Colleges on Budget Cut Impacts
Schum reported on position losses in Human Ecology. In ATID, 0.7 FTE were lost due to phased retirement while 1.45 FTE were lost in FSHS due to phased retirement. One position was lost in HRIMD and another in ATID. HN gained one position as promised in a department head start-up package but lost 0.60 position at the same time. FSHS was allocated 0.83 instructor positions. Overall 2.75 Full Professor FTE were lost, 1.40 Associate Professor FTE, as well as 0.60 Assistant Professor FTE, while gaining 0.83 Instructor FTE. The total loss was 3.92 FTE. An additional 1.0 FTE Professor position is being held open in HN.
Turnley reported that Business has lost two tenure track positions, and one unclassified professional position while holding open two tenure-track positions. Business has also increased class sizes, reduced course offerings, cut certain specializations (e.g., Industrial and Labor Relations), reduced computing lab hours, cut lab assistant positions, reduced graduate assistantships, reduced faculty support, eliminated the Small Business Development Program, eliminated the Honors Program, cancelled Fort Riley classes and Summer Research Grants. Faculty turnover for better-funded programs continues.

Behnke reported that approximately 18 unclassified staff accepted the early retirement option offered them. Positions were lost in 8 of 9 departments, three positions are being held open. In Cooperative Extension, all open positions are being filled internally. There are one professor, 3 associate, and 1 assistant professor positions unfilled along with 1 unclassified professional and 2 classified positions. Hartman noted that some staff changed positions as a way of avoiding anticipated cuts.

B. Schumm mentioned that custodian cuts had required the lowest paid KSU staff to work overloads at no additional pay and asked that CCOP members investigate the situations in their own colleges.

VI. New Business
Schumm indicated that he would be willing to continue as FSCOUP Chair for next year but that others were welcome to submit/be nominated. Election will occur next meeting.

VII. For the Good of the University
Al Cochran mentioned that the FSLC will go to Salina on April 28th and shared governance will be discussed in addition to having a tour of the facility.

Amy Hartman said that there would be a public forum on parking on April 24th at 3:30 p.m. in the Big 12 Room. She mentioned that there are about 10,000 legal parking spaces on campus and about 14,000 permit holders. There are 51 24-hour parking stalls and 207 ten-hour stalls on campus. There are plans to make the 10 hour stalls (7 a.m. to 5 p.m.) into 12 hour stalls (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.) in hopes of increasing the number of 24-hour stalls available (people would give up their more expensive 24 hour stalls if they knew their space was reserved earlier and later, a full 12 hours, if they obtained the 12 hour permits).

VIII. Adjournment
Scott Jones made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Dick Oberst, and approved unanimously at 4:58 p.m.