Present: Bloodgood, Gormely, Kearns, Schumm, and Shubert
Absent: Behnke, Burns, Hassan, Oberst, Rowlett, Simon, Spears, Stadtlander, and Yahnke

1. Walter Schumm, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

2. The minutes of October 20, 2005 stood approved as written.

3. Announcements

Schumm reported that Wayne Goins was selected as the new ombudsperson to replace Briana Nelson Goff.

Schumm mentioned the action taken in Colorado regarding TABOR. It was put on hold at this time.

Schumm mentioned the ongoing concern on campus regarding the recent k-state.edu at the end of email addresses. It has been noted that outgoing mail from KSU faculty has been reading “k-state.edu” by the receiver. Faculty members have voiced concern about this. Some faculty members have mentioned if they are part of a professional listserv their email is being returned because the listserv is receiving the email under the k-state.edu address and the listserv does not recognize their address. The FSCOT committee has stated they will be looking into this issue.

Schumm mentioned various pictures put up around campus by JFA (Justice for All), although he admitted he had not seen them himself. Apparently these are very graphic and disturbing to some. According the University Attorney’s Office, the entire KSU campus is a free speech center. Protest materials do have some restrictions such as: they must not be hazardous or hinder the entrance to any office, etc. However, there are not specific restrictions on size or length of time displayed. There are campuses that do have more restrictions; however, they’ve been in place for many years. Timing is a key element in choosing to impose more restrictions. If you impose restrictions immediately after the visit of a source of offensive speech, it is anticipated that courts will assume you are targeting the speech of one particular group, which is deemed unfair.

Schumm mentioned certain distance educational experience that is being negotiated between KSU and China. It would apparently be three years of distance education from China and the student’s last year would be at KSU where they would then graduate with a KSU degree. Some have mentioned alarm over this.

Schumm asked for suggestions on how to use city/university funds. Please email him with any ideas you have for this by December 1st. Money is available each year for improvements. Shubert mentioned this would be for physical infrastructure type items that would be beneficial to both the university and city. Schumm read off a list of things being proposed for the next few years.

4. Old Business
A. Parking Garage
   There are no new updates on this item. It is going through the Board of Regents process.

B. Strategic Planning

   Schumm mentioned the four priorities that have been identified in this process by the university. He asked for input from committee members on their colleges’ priority process. He also asked for comments on the Strategic information from Oregon State, which he gave to committee members last week. Members commented on points of the report they enjoyed or felt were helpful to them.

   Gormely asked what our committee’s general role is to be in this whole process. Schumm felt for the most part this process is coming up through the deans. However, if we find specific areas we feel strongly about that could be used in this process, they could be voiced in this committee and be passed on to Faculty Senate Leadership. Bloodgood wondered if we were eventually in the Top 10 whether it would then be easier to get money from the legislation. Discussion followed regarding issues surrounding this subject. Schumm did mention the Margin of Excellence program, which was cut short due to a budget recession.

   Schumm asked for further comments about the hand-written document he passed out two meetings ago which took into account the top 27 universities (land-grant universities without medical schools). Discussion followed. There were comments regarding admission requirements and graduation rates here at Kansas State University.

5. New Business

6. For the Good of the University

   Kearns mentioned the Library is instituting a certain quiet zone area in response to student requests.

7. Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.