Walter Schumm, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Schumm commented that since our last meeting the tuition assistance program has passed. Spears reported that she heard people were thanking faculty senate members for their work on this.

III. Announcements

A. Faculty Senate Leadership
Past president Spears mentioned the FSLC (Faculty Senate Leadership Council) met throughout the summer and worked on quite a bit. The parking garage as well technology issues were discussed. President’s staff meetings are starting up again. Schumm reported A/V needs would be discussed for general use classrooms. The five-year tuition program for students is coming to an end and Burns informed the FSCOUP members a committee is being formed that consists of 8 students, and representatives from the Provost’s office and office of Institutional advancement and finance to discuss future options. In other news, the portal is possibly going live in the spring, also electronic thesis and dissertations. Jane Rowlett commented the portal is available now on the K-State home page for testing purposes. The Royal Purple photo will be taken at the first Faculty Senate meeting. Schumm also commented on safety issues for tunnel workers due to work being done on these tunnels in regard to upgrading technology.

Schumm passed out a list of events going on in the near future on campus. Spears reminded the committee the State of the University address will be tomorrow at 3:30 p.m.

Schumm mentioned the university closes over Christmas and gave helpful suggestions on how employees can accrue leave to help cover that work week, such as working on veteran’s day and also using the one discretionary day given each year.

Schumm mentioned that the bioscience initiative, K-state being sold on-line, the role of faculty senate in strategic planning, general classroom use needs, energy management system, tuition reduction plan and the 2007 budget will be items discussed during today’s president’s staff meeting.

The Schedule 25 committee needs a FSCOUP representative and Schumm asked for a volunteer. Shubert volunteered and Schumm will discuss this with him.

IV. Old Business

A. University International Study Abroad Programs – no report at this time.

V. New Business

A. Parking Garage
Gary Leitnaker, Human Resources and Darwin “Ace” Abbott, Director of Parking Services gave a brief presentation on the new parking garage. Due to time constraints, they presented at the beginning of the meeting. Currently we have approximately 10,000 parking stalls. Faculty/Staff have 1,900 stalls, students have 3,900, and there are 3,600 stalls designated for either faculty/staff or students. Through the years the Campus Development committee has proposed and designated locations for future parking garages. Finally, AGA and Ken Ebert design were selected through the Council on Parking Operations to create a pro forma business plan. This company is nationally recognized. Gary passed around a draft
blue print of the garage. Architectural features would include limestone to keep with the theme of campus. This garage would provide 1,406 stalls or a net gain of 966 stalls from what we currently have. To afford the garage we would need to increase student parking fees by $25 for three years and faculty/staff parking fees by $34 each year for three years. Many are concerned with the cost of parking fee increases. Gary reviewed a proposal that would limit the increase in parking fees by the amount of income earned by each person. For a reserved stall in the garage it would cost approximately $750. The committee was shown various slides on what this garage may look like. Kearns asked about security issues. Abbott responded that all costs such as electricity, security, and lighting as well as other things are included in the estimate given. Simon asked about funding. Revenue bonds are being looked at and then the new parking fees will pay them off. The time frame of payoff is twenty years. The lifetime of the garage itself is estimated at over 100 years. Concern was raised about the size of a standard parking stall. Abbott responded a stall would probably be 8 feet 6 inches wide. Yahnke asked about the other stalls within the garage besides reserved stalls and how they would be paid for. You would pay by an hourly rate when you leave. Estimated rates would be $1 per hour. Gormely commented this really is a good amount of additional parking spaces for the university. Gary commented that during construction, which is expected to last 15-18 months, a shuttle would be available for use. Burns commented that if there were several drop off points throughout campus, people would probably be willing to cooperate. The parking garage still needs to be passed by the Board of Regents and then on up the line. Construction would probably not begin until at least May 2007. Many good questions were asked and answers provided. In then end, whatever is done will require all to be willing to work with each another during the process.

B. Strategic Planning
Schumm passed out information from the University of Florida site on ranking universities, which is located on this website: http://thecenter.ufl.edu/mission.html. He mentioned that currently K-State is ranked either 12 or 13 and in order to be included in the top 10 certain things need to be worked on. Spears suggested we talk about how Faculty senate can participate more fully in Strategic Planning. It would be nice for us to be thinking about how we can help most in this effort by planning from the ground up. Gormely asked what things are being done to help from the top down such as have we considered what are our goals regarding student growth. It was mentioned right now we are fairly close to maxing out on classroom space so how can we expect more growth. Gormely asked about the number of applications turned down. He is concerned that we accept almost everyone. Spears will find the number for him and will also send him information on qualified admissions. Boards of Regents institutions do have to follow certain requirements regarding admissions.

C. Summer Health Insurance
Schumm briefly asked Gary Leitnaker about concerns over summer health insurance costs. Some faculty are concerned about those who are paid by grants in the summer not getting their health insurance paid by the state, but rather charging the grant for the employer cost of the insurance and therefore not having the money for other uses. Committee members and visitors gave a variety of comments. Bruce Schubert commented that due to the raise in employer costs for insurance, this could have raised the attention of faculty members.

VI. For the Good of the University

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.