Faculty Senate Resource Polices and Allocations Council (RPA)
Annual Report – 2007-8

Members: Gregory Palermo (Chair), Mike Owen (CALS), Travis Sapp (Bus), Chris Martin (Des), Margaret Torrie (CHS), Ricardo Rosenbusch (VetMed), John Jackman (Eng), Arnold Van der Valk (LAS), Jack Girton (Research chair); ex. Officio: Sedahlia Crase; Clark Ford

1. Meetings and Process:

The RPA meets monthly with Executive Vice President and Provost Betsy Hoffman and Associate Vice President Ellen Rasmussen. Principal issues pertain to budget policies, and development and allocation of resources as they pertain to broadly defined academic advancement of the university. This year, the focus has been on working with the office of the provost as the new budget model is being implemented.

In addition, the council met monthly during the fall, and weekly during the spring semester to conduct other regular business.

The minutes of the meetings are available on the Faculty Senate site.

2. Administration and Shared Governance

The council developed three working documents to address these issues with the provost:

a) “Working Relations with the Provost Regarding Budget”, July 2007. Outlined RPA advisory role in shared governance; defined anticipated data and information the RPA would need to carry out its role; & outlined anticipated points of formal advisory input.

b) “RMM Implementation Schedule”, August and October 2007. Schedule showing FY09 budget process and RMM implementation; RPA review and input dates

c) “College Implementation of Guiding Principles”, Minutes 10/04/07 and Document, October 2007. Discussion regarding collegiate implementation of faculty and Senate input to budget process, policies and proposals as called for in the RMM approval

3. Budget Policies and Allocations

The council developed four policy papers this year:

a) Criteria Guidelines for evaluating budget proposals (1/22/08)

b) Evaluation and Recommendations regarding Strategic Budget Enhancement Proposals by the Administrative Service Centers (ASCs) (3/11/08)

c) Evaluation and Recommendations regarding Strategic Budget Enhancement Proposals by the Responsibility Resource Centers (RRCs) (4/15/08)

d) Salary Policy Recommendations (3/31/08)
4. Research Policy

Reviewed, proposed revisions, approved and forwarded the Research Policy to the Faculty Senate. The Senate approved the policy on April 15. The policy was developed by the Research Advisory Committee under the guidance of Jack Girton working with the office of the Vice President for Research John Brighton.

5. Upcoming for Academic ‘08–‘09

a) Review council structure and mission mandate for three committees that have been inactive this year: Business and Finance Advisory Committee, IT Advisory Committee and Welfare and Benefits with the objective of re-activating them or sunsetting them.

b) Continue to work with the office of the provost on budget development – the focus will be on shifting to budget and academic policy advisory review and oversight as we implement full operation of the new budget model.

c) Revise and distribute Budget Development Evaluation Criteria to Senate representative on ASC Budget Advisory Committees, and Senate participants on RRC advisory bodies.