RPA Agenda: Feb. 1, 2007  8:00AM Faculty Senate Conference room

(1) Library Budget concerns

Presentation by David Hopper on the funding situation of the library.

“The basic funding problem for the library has only gotten worse since I last spoke to the Senate; in fact, the overall ARL ranking for the Library dropped 9 places just this year. Our ranking is in a free fall, along with our funding and books and journal resources. It is long past time for faculty to stand up and support THEIR library”.

We need to discuss with Dave the situation and see what type of recommendation we can make. We then need to discuss how to work this recommendation into our review and advice on the academic budget.

(2) Budget Discussions

Where do we go from here?

a. The coming year’s budget. Our job is to review the “academic budget”. This was intentionally phrased this way to indicate we are not limited to the colleges’ budgets.

   What is included in the “academic budget”? I am assuming it includes the colleges (including the library) and interdepartmental programs that report directly to the Provost. We need to define exactly what these are.

b. What do we mean to do in our budget review and what type of advice do we intend to give to the Provost?

   This year a budget will be prepared under the old and the new models. This will be an excellent opportunity for us to become familiar with the working of the new budget model and establish how we are to function under it.

c. How does our budget operation overlap with our other shared governance operations? We advise the Vice president for Research, the Vice President for Business and Finance, and the CIO. We need to be clear how that advisory capacity does and does not include budget recommendations.

We had a very good discussion at our last meeting. I would like to build on this to begin to define specific actions we should be taking to prepare ourselves for our first meeting with Provost Hoffman.