

AOF Board Minutes October 9, 2010

Present were Jacqueline Arante, Timothy Thompson, Steve Gibbons, Chip Ettinger, and Kemble Yates. Kristen Leonard and Elizabeth Cushwa from C&E Systems joined us.

President Tim Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

The minutes from the May 22, 2010 meeting were approved as amended.

Treasurer's report:

Kemble shared an update of our expenses and income. Kemble also reported that PAC and AOF have submitted a tax return. The board accepted the Treasurer's report.

President's report:

Jim Etchison, long time AOF representative from OIT, passed away recently. IFS will be meeting at SOU Friday and Saturday next week (Oct. 15-16), and AOF has an hour spot on their agenda (Friday, 4 PM). Kemble and Tim will attend on our behalf.

Campus reports:

OIT (TT)

- OIT now has steam-powered geothermally driven electrical generator.
- OIT is moving forward to start a Wilsonville campus with a multimillion dollar building. Hope is to get 700-1000 students.
- Furlough cuts have been stopped for 2010-11.

EOU (CE)

- Enrollment strong.
- Morale on campus still good and relationship with new President much better than previous one.

WOU (SG)

- Enrollments strong again; over 6000 for first time.
- Administration already posturing regarding bargaining issues. For example, Provost complains about cost of sabbaticals.

SOU (KY)

- The APSOU membership voted unanimously at the end of the spring to approve a motion that every member become an AOF member, and to increase dues so that each APSOU member (approximately 220) will pay AOF \$60 per year.
- Furloughs for 2010-11 will still be in effect for Fall and Winter quarters, but will finally stop in Spring. This means we will have 9 week academic quarters in Fall and Winter again this year.
- Math Department just lost an Instructor to Mt. Hood Community College for a \$15,000/year salary increase!

PSU (JA)

- Three new administrative positions recently created, and several others have been introduced to the faculty.
- Administration plans to cap growth at 3% -- by enforcing admissions criteria, deadlines, and eliminate mixed part-time students who pay half in-state and half out-of-state tuition.
- There will soon be a final report from a task force investigating a merger (now collaboration) of OHSU and PSU. Most likely, a “close collaboration” agreement will be signed, something short of a merger.
- Provost announced that some fixed-term faculty lines into tenure-track lines. At this time, 70% of PSU undergraduate SCH is taught by non tenure-track faculty.
- PSU union (Mary King) gearing up for bargaining.
- As part of pulling back furloughs last year, \$1M in monies has been filtering through committees – in non-salary ways.
- Union grappling with the “Hudson ruling” viz-a-viz fair share versus opt out.
- AAUP has decided not to hire a lobbyist going forward.

Membership

Kemble will send “latest” membership lists to each rep. How can we use e-mail to do this?

Jacqueline would like some help – maybe she can be authorized to spend some money on graduate student help at PSU.

Elizabeth and Kristen will send us some ideas of 1) how to sell the C & E lobby team and 2) looming issues.

Post session “dog and pony show”, and invite local legislators by C&E for members.

Tim will lead an e-mail effort to get our membership letter designed and out asap.

Lobbyist Report

Kristen Leonard and Elizabeth Cushwa gave their report. We discussed our contract, and we mutually agreed that their services commenced the beginning of the second week of September. President Tim Thompson received a copy of the annual contract and will sign it, and return.

OUS has been informed it will be funded at 25% less than Current Service Level for 2011-13. And low revenue forecasts during this year will probably cause a need for balancing the 2009-11 budget. Since this Legislature ALSO took a cut, they will shorten the 2011 session! Start in January, but after a few days adjourn & resume on February 1. This will make legislative timelines will be compressed/stressed.

C&E projects that the Democrats will still control both houses, but the margin is very much unclear at this time. Neither Governor candidate seems to have OUS very high on their agenda. Dudley has been more explicit about cutting public employee salaries and benefits.

We discussed a recommendation for PAC contributions. After discussion, it was approved unanimously. We also discussed having C & E make a bid on administering our OFPAC in future years.

We agreed to meet Saturday, December 11.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.