

January 28, 2012

Present: Kemble Yates, Jacqueline Arante, Stephen Gibbons, Tim Thompson, Greg Monahan, and Alan Bakalinsky. Kristen Leonard from C&E Systems was also present.

Meeting was called to order at 10:10 by President Tim Thompson.

Minutes from the November 12, 2011 meeting approved as amended.

Treasurer's report was accepted. Kemble announced that the Ameritrade account will be closed soon, and at that point the debt to Public Affairs Counsel will be paid off.

President's Report

We should consider spending some money on organization building now that we have some financial flexibility. We discussed various ideas about how to move forward with a membership drive, an OFPAC contribution drive, getting our web page spruced up, etc. Kemble will soon be receiving an electronic list of all AOF members and OFPAC contributors. He'll send it to each of us once available. Each of us should inquire at our institution how to go about (and how much it would cost) to get an electronic list of all faculty at our institution. Tim will contact Jay Kenton (in his role as AOF President) and get on his/OUS contact list for their information announcements, requests for input, etc.

OIT Campus Report (TT):

Marla Miller will serve on the committee to advise the OUS Board on PEBB options and other Health benefits issues, as charged by SB 242, Section 43. There is also a committee being formed to advise OUS Board on ORP (Optional Retirement Plans). OIT's wells continue to disappoint, and this has some financial implications for OUS. OIT will also be consolidating its Portland presence at the new Wilsonville campus (and leaving Beaverton). Faculty raises will be: 2% in February, 2012; 2% in September, 2012; and additional 2% raises for September 2013 and 2014. Enrollments up modestly (about 1.7%). OIT is still struggling how to manage its Distance Education effort.

OSU Campus report (AB):

Alan did some modifications to our membership letter in anticipation of doing a membership drive. OSU is trying to use reports on its economic impact to help make the case that is a very important part of the Oregon economy.

PSU Campus report (JA):

The organizing drive at UO has begun in earnest. The proposed bargaining unit is purportedly about 2056 people. The PSU union (AAUP) has settled. Outline of highlights: 3.1% ATB + 1% Equity/merit for some each year of contract. Also, rank minimums and promotions are up 3.1%. PSU's recent President and Chief Negotiator,

Jonathon Uto, has resigned his position and taken a new one with the City of Portland as their labor negotiator (for a large salary increase, of course). The Provost search is active. Jacqueline, in her capacity as PSU's rep to the statewide AAUP, mentioned that we might consider co-sponsoring a "faculty governance conference" with AAUP.

WOU Campus report (SG):

Mark Weiss was named interim President (for this and next year). There'll be a search next year for the new President to come on some time in 2013.

SOU Campus report (KY):

The Senate continues to work on revising promotion and tenure guidelines and this might conclude at the next meeting. Provost and Finance VP doing a dog & pony show on SOU budget concerns. 8 of 17 searches have been frozen. APSOU is interested in having an APSOU person be a part of the AOF Board. Kemble will report on this at our next meeting.

EOU Campus report (GM):

Negotiations have concluded. Highlights: 2% retroactive Sept., 2011, and 4% for Sept., 2012. There is a reopener in spring of 2013 to try to get an additional 2%.

Lobbyist Report (KL and CP):

The February Session starts next week (W). There is a tight calendar for bills. Rules, Ways & Means, and Revenue don't have the same limitations. W, Feb. 8 will see the next revenue forecast which will drive much of the actual tenor of the session. Recall each agency was directed to make plans for a 3.5%, a 7%, and a 10.5% cut. The anticipation is that at least the 3.5% cut will happen; OUS will take this out of reserves. After this, perhaps another \$100 M will still need to be cut from the state budget, and something like \$50 M will have to come from education budgets. Of course the shortfall could be greater in which case the problems would be proportionately worse. The plan is that all revenue/cuts will be in ONE uber-bill.

We then overviewed bills of potential interest to AOF. It appears that there's general agreement among leadership to not have ANY bills related to PERS. This means good bills (protecting privacy of retirees) but also bad bills (e.g. going after 6% pick-up). However there will potentially be a "Belotti Bill" restricting what salary can be used in computing final average salary. General consensus is that though a couple of bills would be bad, they are unlikely to get through.

Next Meeting

We agreed to March 17, 2012 at PSU.
The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.