Academic Affairs

Dr. Madden announced that SUNY has notified the campus that they will not be forwarding the application for branch campus status for JCC. With the pressure from the Department of Education to reduce the number of teaching candidates in the state, SUNY felt it was the wrong time to forward the proposal.

There are currently 16 faculty (including one librarian) searches taking place. Dr. Madden noted that the decision on which faculty positions to fill was being made in a strategic manner.

The Calendar Committee is beginning to meet to discuss the 2014-15 academic calendar.

A call went out recently for volunteers to chair the 2013 Academic festival, and Dr. Madden was hopeful that the chair might be identified by the end of the day.

The Provost is working with different groups within Academic Affairs to get ideas for how to use any additional funds that might be available in the upcoming budget cycle.

Dr. Madden was pleased to announce the results of some assessment conducted on the handcrafted education at the campus. The percentage of students during the 2007-08 and 2008-09 academic years who were involved in the identified activities are as follows:

- Independent Study: 19%
- Internships: 47%
- Study Abroad: 6%
- Practica: 20%
- Recitals/Exhibits: 4%
- Sr. Projects: 8%
- Student Teaching: 39%
- Teaching Assistants: 4%
- Tutorial: 4%
- Studio Instruction: All Music Students

Business Affairs

Mike Lewis reported that it appears the State will pass the budget on time for the beginning of its fiscal year on April 1. He is uncertain of what the budget will mean to Potsdam.

There will be another $300 tuition increase, and the maintenance of effort is included in the Governor’s budget request, meaning there shouldn’t be any drop in state support for the campuses. At this time, Mike is not anticipating any reductions, but he isn’t certain we’ll see any growth because of the need to restore the countermeasures that have been used in the last few years to manage the cuts.

The labor union for University Police recently settled a contract that will be retroactive to 2005. This will mean large cash payouts for UP employees and was not on the radar.
screen for the local budget. Mike is optimistic that there will be State support for this additional expense.

SUNY is reviewing the current allocation model and planning to make changes. Although the model works well in times of growth, it has not worked so well in times of cuts. They are trying to treat campuses fairly, but finding it challenging. SUNY will be doing away with some subsidies that have helped the College in the past. The small campus subsidy and the special mission adjustment will be gone. SUNY is looking at, among other things, performance measures on which they will base allocations of additional funds. Additionally, SUNY is looking at peer institutions to use as comparisons, which poses a challenge for Potsdam, as it is very difficult to identify other colleges with the same makeup as ours.

The Chancellor pledged to the Governor that SUNY would reduce by $100 million, although we haven’t been informed of any details. The Chancellor is asking to see how any savings we are accruing are being invested in the academic arm of the College. This will be challenging for us because we need to fill the holes created by the measures used to manage the cuts these past few years.

The State is implementing a new accounting system and will shut down all accounting processes between March 13 and April 15. This will impact all departments, as no payments will be made during that time. Mark Martincheck is managing the situation.

Human Resources and Purchasing are looking at how they might share services between Potsdam, Canton and Plattsburgh. Some positive discussions have been occurring.

**Faculty Senate**

Jan Trybula reported that the Policy committee is recommending to the Senate to add an additional graduation date after Winterim. The Senate will consider this proposal in March.

The Admissions Committee is assisting the Admissions Office with applications, especially in the identification of Bridges students.

The Student Affairs Committee is looking at end-of-year faculty awards.

The Graduate Affairs Committee is reviewing the policy that 9 credit hours constitutes a full-time graduate student, and working through some issues.

Jan has received positive feedback on the newly posted transparency of budgets now available and thanked Charlene for her presentation at Faculty Senate.

The Senate is looking at refurbishing the archives of faculty senate minutes to allow people to look up information they are currently requesting from Jan.

Jan mentioned that he had been receiving a few questions about the emergency preparedness of our campus in light of the fire at Canton.

**Lougheed-Kofoed Gift & Festival of the Arts**

Jason Ladouceur explained how the newly pledged gift from Kathy Kofoed ‘54 and Don Lougheed will create an endowment for the Lougheed-Kofoed Festival of the Arts to be held on the campus annually. Both Michael Sitton and Steve Marqusee discussed how
they imagined the festival would develop, including information on this year’s event. Steve mentioned that the proposed bachelor’s degree in arts management would provide a perfect fit for students to work on the planning and implementation of the Festival. The Festival is intended to highlight all of the arts on campus (music, theatre, dance, visual arts, creative writing & SUNY Potsdam Museum) during a 10-day festival for all faculty, staff, students and community, at no cost to those attending.

**Fundraising and Alumni News**

Emily Hutchison described the leadership phase of our current comprehensive campaign as a time when the College works with major donors and leaders prior to a public announcement of the Campaign. This is a time when we test out our priorities and goal of $25 million. To date, $13m has been raised toward the campaign, including pledges and estate gifts as well as outright gifts.

Emily announced that 326 faculty, staff and emeriti donated to the College this past year and reminded the group that donations can be made to your own departments.

There is a link on the faculty staff resource page with the campus fundraising policy. Emily encouraged all to contact her or someone in the Development Office when thinking of doing fundraising. When you receive donations, it is important to write to thank the donor. Please be certain any correspondence with donors is copied to the Advancement Office. Remember that gift-in-kind donations need to go through the advancement office for proper acknowledgment.

**Emergency Update**

Chip Morris reported to the group that we have an active and well-trained Emergency Resource Response Group on campus, but that what happened at Canton could possibly occur on our campus as well. Fortunately, we have Calvin Smith and Susan Hauer in our Environmental Health and Safety department who are very well trained and experienced in these matters. Both Calvin and Sue were involved in assisting Canton during their emergency. Because of Calvin and Sue, Chip reassured the group that we are in a better situation than we were a year or two ago and said the campus should feel relatively comfortable about where we are in our emergency preparedness.

**Middle States**

Chip continued by reminding everyone of the dates of the Middle States visit: March 25 – 28, and also reminded everyone that they could be called for an interview or meeting with a member of the visiting team. It is important that everyone make themselves available to meet with these folks when the request comes. It is completely possible that the team will add requests after they arrive, so there may not be a lot of forewarning.

Chip suggested it would be good to be familiar with the Middle States self-study report, at the very least the recommendations and how they affect your area.