

Faculty Senate Chair's Report
2 February 2006

1. President's Council

a. Governor Fletcher's Budget – See attached summary

As most of you are no doubt aware by now, the funding provided for higher education in the Governor's budget is nowhere near the levels recommended by the CPE. Over the course of the next biennium, out of the \$4.34 million recommended, \$920,000 is in the Governor's budget. Out of the \$3 million recommended for regional stewardship, the Governor included \$700,000. The only special initiative is the University Center of the Mountains, and the only capital item is the Center for Health, Education and Research. Estimates are that if these numbers remain at these levels, MSU will not be able to even meet projected fixed costs. There are efforts already underway to persuade the Legislature that increases are imperative. If it is any consolation, MSU was not alone in receiving such gloomy news. Tuition modeling is underway, but not much can be finalized till the final budget is known.

b. The enrollment for Spring is 8484. This represents a typical drop from Fall to Spring. However, we need to Recruit, Recruit, Recruit! We need a growth of 1200 by August.

c. An online Phone Directory is slated for implementation in Fall of 2006. It will be a database, with many searchable attributes

2. Dean's Council

a. SOAR Dates – April 14 (transfer), April 21, April 22, June 10, June 15, June 20, July 14, and July 25. Academic displays will be set up in the morning for each college. Faculty from each department are encouraged to be present to answer questions. It is anticipated that these displays will be up from 8:30 am till 10 am.

b. When building schedules for Fall 2006, the Spring 2007 schedule should be built as well, making it as complete as possible.