MEETING: The Riverside Division of the Academic Senate met on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at 2:10 p.m. in A265 Bourns. Chair T. Cogswell presided.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the Regular and Annual meeting of November 20, 2007 were approved as distributed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHANCELLOR: Acting Chancellor Grey commented on two items. The first item was the budget. We will know nothing about the outcome of the budget until summer. No serious negotiations will start on the budget until May. In the meantime, the Governor honored the compact with the university and that includes formula funding for an additional 5,000 students. Then the Governor’s budget proposes a 10% reduction after adding that additional funding in the compact. Discussion among the Chancellors and Office of the President was whether to take the additional 5,000 students. There were lots of people consulted and the way it will come out is that we will say yes, we will accept the additional 5,000 students systemwide for this coming academic year. There are several reasons for that. First, California has the largest high school graduating class in its history this year and secondly, it is within a few weeks of the time that the University sends out admissions letters. This doesn’t mean that that many students will matriculate and we will keep our agreement to admit them. Provost Hume has told the Chancellors that in this budget year, there will be no money for over enrollment. The referral pool will be larger and UCR will benefit from that. In the discussions among the Chancellors, President, and Provost, the question about what should be our priorities; there was unanimous agreement that the faculty salary increase plan that started this year will be a top priority. This is enthusiastically supported by all the Chancellors.

Acting Chancellor Grey commented on the School of Medicine proposal and thanked everyone who had worked on committees to review the draft proposals. It has been a huge effort and he has appreciated everyone’s time. The comments have been good for the proposal and good for the campus. It escapes no one’s attention that we are about to complete a review process for a new school that costs a lot of money to start originally and then over the decade to develop. It is not a cheap undertaking; it is a transforming step for the campus. It is almost the equivalent of starting up a new campus of the university because of the nature and size it can become if it is successful. We can’t do anything about the coincidence of the budget but what the Chancellor will say in the transmittal letter pending the review by the Senate and assuming that it is favorable when we get the appropriate revisions made is the following: “We are submitting the proposal with full enthusiasm. We have put a lot of work into it and we are poised to make it happen. But it cannot happen and we will not accept its establishment at the cost of current programs on the Riverside campus.” The venture is too costly to implement by shaving budgets of the existing colleges and schools. It would be inappropriate to proceed. This is Chancellor’s Grey own view on the matter. We can make the case that the investment which will require special attention by the Legislature and Governor is well worth the making. It will return a lot on that investment, not just in dollars but in benefit to the community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR AND PROVOST: There were no announcements by the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE DEANS OR OTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICERS: Tonantcin Oseguera, Assistant Dean of Students, addressed the faculty regarding Homecoming. In an effort to improve the connection between faculty and students, she shared information on some of the events that are happening on campus this weekend and encouraged faculty to help celebrate homecoming.
ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SECRETARY-PARLIAMENTARIAN: Professor A.S. Jacobs announced that the election report was found on page 6 of the full agenda.

Professor R. Richert was elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Professor L. Swanson was elected to serve as Chair of the Faculty of the Graduate School of Education.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR: Chair T. Cogswell began with an announcement from the eFile ad hoc committee. A questionnaire is going to be distributed to all faculty & staff who have (or will have) used the e-file program. The questionnaire will help the committee determine those areas of eFile that are successful and those that are opportunities for improvement. Chair Cogswell encouraged all faculty to respond to the questionnaire and ask that faculty encourage their respective departmental staff who are responsible for academic personnel to also respond to the questionnaire.

Another questionnaire, the Faculty Climate Survey, will be distributed shortly. A similar effort in Spring 2006 due to a lack of response from the faculty, less than 1/3 responded. The earlier effort was organized by the Administration with the advice of the Senate and employed Wonderlic. This time the Administration will fund the survey, the Senate will retain full control over the exercise and the results. Faculty can be certain of complete confidentiality in their responses.

Chair Cogswell announced that a Special Division Meeting is tentatively planned for Tuesday, March 4, 2008. Senate Committees are analyzing the business plan for the medical school. At the special meeting, we will collectively determine a response. This is the second and last step in the discussions about the new medical school.

Regarding the search for the new Chancellor, members of the search committee both here and in Oakland have given Chair Cogswell to understand that their efforts are progressing nicely and they are about to begin discussions with several highly promising persons of interest.

SPECIAL ORDERS:
1. Consent Calendar: The Consent Calendar was adopted with unanimous consent.

REPORT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSEMBLY: Professor C. Lovatt presented the report of the January 30, 2008 meeting of the Assembly of the Academic Senate, which can be found on page 39 of the full agenda.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND FACULTIES:

A. Professor T. Cogswell, Chair of the Executive Council, presented and moved adoption of The Curriculum for the School of Medicine found on page 43 of the full agenda. The motion was unanimously adopted.

B. Naming from the Senate: Raymond L. Orbach Science Library. The Administration and the Senate had agreed to put forth a proposal to rename the Science Library. As long as Raymond Orbach continues to serve for the White House Administration we cannot do this without coming into conflict with federal funding guidelines. Chair Cogswell requested permission to pull this item. There were no objections.
C. Chair I. Dumer, Chair of the Graduate Council presented and moved adoption of the proposal for an Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Management Leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. Degrees found on page 243 of the full agenda. The motion was unanimously adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

A.S. Jacobs, Secretary-Parliamentarian
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

Sue Stracener
Recording Secretary