

Committee on Priorities and Resources  
Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2013

In attendance: Assistant Director Carol Allman-Morton, Prof. Rob Benedetto, Dean of the Faculty Gregory Call, *ex officio*, Rental Property Supervisor Jonathan Devins, Christopher Friend '14, Treasurer Shannon Gurek, *ex officio*, Prof. Jagu Jagannathan, chair, Prof. Pavel Machala, Prof. Karen Sánchez-Eppler, George Tepe '14, *ex officio*, and Sarah Barr, recorder.

Not in attendance: Roger Creel '13 and Director of Human Resources Maria-Judith Rodriguez, *ex officio*.

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm.

Proceedings

1. Faculty Salary Report – The CPR reviewed the final version of the report and discussed its contents. The report was unanimously approved.
2. Letter to Senior Staff – Prof. Jagannathan will draft the committee's annual letter to senior staff and circulate it via e-mail. To review, the committee discussed the budget and position requests for FY 2014.
  - a. Below Line Budgets – The committee reviewed the budget requests by functional area. Discretionary budgets, casual employees, equipment needs, Dean of Students' office funding, Amherst Leads, Grab 'n Go, and various contracts were discussed.
  - b. New Positions – Shannon Gurek reviewed the position requests for the upcoming year. Dining Services has requested several positions for the new Grab 'n Go program so the casual positions can be regularized as well as positions to support food preparation. The Dean of Students office has requested several positions in order to meet the staffing needs of the department. Various other positions were requested across numerous departments. Shannon will continue to meet with department heads to gather more information about the needs of the campus so the college can prioritize the positions.
  - c. Amherst Leads – There seems to be a lack of student support for the expansion of Amherst Leads. Students are wary about making the Athletics department the home of leadership on campus, especially since so many students are involved in leadership activities through the Dean of Students office. The CPR is unclear about the goals of the program, which is concerning because it feels like a curricular intervention that should be vetted by faculty. Additionally the group was concerned about the size of the staff (4 FTE), which would make it larger than the Student Activities office. The current programming seems to feature inspirational speakers but the programming is not translatable into practical skills. The group was unsure if the Amherst Leads events are any different than other programming that is taking place on campus. Prof. Jagannathan will follow up with Suzanne Coffey and share the CPR's concerns.

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Barr