Minutes for the Executive Committee meeting of 4 February 2013

Present: Peter Bushnell, Steven Gerencser, Lee Kahan, Susan Moore, Carolyn Schult Cynthia Sofhauser, Alison Stankrauff, Ganesh Vaidyanathan, Lesley Walker

I. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes were approved with minor corrections.

II. **Scheduling Grid:** President Walker reported that Doug McMillen has generated a series of grids to show various options for a 5-day schedule. The administration seems to be assuming that this is going to happen, but there are reasons to push back against this. We are going to bring this to the faculty and push back if the faculty decide that this is not in the faculty’s best interest.

Q: Why are they pushing so hard for this?
A: We’re being told that the legislature will not invest in building projects if we do not show that we are using buildings to capacity.

Q: Are they considering how this will impact the budget?
A: Jerry will report on this.

Q: Have they surveyed the students about this?
A: No.

Q: If we are going to do this, we have to consider to what end.
A: We are going to be offering the same classes to the same students. We’re just doing this to make ICHE happy.

Q: There are some issues with classroom space right now.
Q: I could see that as a justifiable argument or if it was going to relieve parking pressure.
Q: is anything going to be done in regard to faculty teaching loads, as regards the level at which they are teaching?
A: They put together a report that showed more adjuncts are being employed at the lower level than in 2008. The subtext was that faculty are teaching too many upper-level courses and need to teach more lower level courses. It’s obvious why we have adjuncts in the lower-level courses. We can’t pull people off the street to teach upper-level courses, but we can to teach the entry level ones. If they gave us more tenure lines, we would be teaching at the lower level.

III. **Centralization:** President Walker has expressed to chancellor Reck that the faculty is very concerned about centralization. This concerns not only UITS but also security and other facets of the university. Walker encouraged Reck to push back against this trend. This is an issue that the executive committee can raise with John Applegate when he visits campus on March 27th. President Walker will try to arrange for the Executive Committee to meet with Applegate at 4pm that day, since all committee members are available at that time.

IV. **Budget Report:** Jerry Hinnefeld reported on the progress of the Budget Reduction Committee, which has been meeting since December to determine strategies for addressing the budget shortfall.
V. Faculty Senate Agenda: The agenda for the February Faculty Senate meeting was approved.