Executive Committee Minutes – 11/5/12

Present: Steven Hirsch, Richard Eichenberg, James Ennis, Thomas Downes, Karen Panetta

Absent: Jeanne Penvenne

1) Update on Tenure and Promotion Committee (T&P) issues

2) Lunch with Department Chairs – Decided to wait until the Spring.

3) Report on Trustees' Advancement Committee (Karen)

4) Report on Trustees' Administration and Finance Committee (Ike)

5) Discussed Benefits Committee idea that had been raised by Dean Berger-Sweeney – will discuss with B&P and with Dean Berger-Sweeney in our meeting with her.

6) Report on Trustees' Academic Affairs Committee (Jim)

7) Meeting with Dean Berger-Sweeney
   • Discussed relationship of Working Goals with Strategic Planning, will have strategic planning process in A&S after university-wide plan put in place
   • A&S will create working group on on line technologies and teaching – effort will be delayed until university-wide group finishes
   • Also have created a working group for short-term science space needs
   • Dean's office sponsored a working group on digital humanities which grew out of a faculty request
   • Working group also created to strengthen film and visual arts
   • Steve asked about Athletics – Joanne indicated that we are essentially doing an external review. Have hired a consultant to look at Athletics and suggest organizational improvements. Impetus was argument by board of advisors for athletics that we should spend more on athletics. Question – Should Athletics Committee be involved in this review.
   • Key A&S administrators have been charged with looking for ways to engage faculty governance.
   • Facilities priorities – 1) Sciences, 2) Connector building – interdisciplinary efforts in social sciences and humanities, 3) New home for occupational therapy, 4) Space for studio and visual arts. Decisions about priorities driven by interdisciplinarity and by combination of research and teaching needs.