Executive Committee Minutes – 4/22/13

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

1) A&S Retreat – Discussed whether we should have a representative on the planning committee, discussed views of last year's retreat, was it good?, was it productive?, does our participation in planning this retreat make any sense?, discussed set of names of people who would be good on the strategic planning group and on the planning group

2) Agreed to meet on 4/29 with new members – can select chairs and a summer liaison, discuss carry over items, discuss annual report

3) Reviewed proposed e-mail to committee chairs – Felt we could use text from last year's e-mail, would be helpful to find out which committees failed to submit annual reports last year, would be even more helpful to find out if there are committees that failed to meet, discussed wording of equal opportunity actions portion of the e-mail, will suggest wording changes for that portion, will also suggest pointing chairs to past annual reports when encouraging them to draft and submit this year's report

4) Forum – a) Scheduling the meeting with the President and the Provost – Approach them about times; b) Record of the forum – discussed two versions of notes (both overview and detailed); c) Content of forum - Reviewed two points Roger Tobin had made about the prelude, led us to a more general issue – language in the prelude (and in the plan to follow) matters more than the administration thinks, must think about what the audience is for this plan, seems that this plan will matter; two critical issues to raise in meeting with President and Provost – i) transparency, ii) question of whether faculty will vote on the document; failure to release working group reports leads to belief that the plan is simply the President's plan – not driven by underlying reports, could discuss ground rules of release in our meeting; reason for vote – faculty sentiment needs to be made clear, if answer on vote is no, we will indicate that we will poll faculty; moved on to concerns raised by proposal to replace “service” with “impact” - in our meeting will need to mention that this would require modification of Statement 11; who is the audience for the strategic plan? - concern driven by fact that teaching in AS&E generates revenue to support research in the sciences, wording of prelude can be viewed as suggesting that arts, humanities, and social sciences are viewed as teaching primarily; d) Future faculty meetings – Do we want to have faculty forums that are regularly scheduled, do we want to set aside final half-hour of each AS&E meeting for faculty only or do we want one 90 minute forum each semester, should plan to use time at the end of each faculty meeting for committee reports