

Budget Council
Minutes
September 28, 2009
1:30PM
202 Tigert Hall

Attendees:

David Quillen
James Klausner
Ed Poppell
Kathy Price
Regina Bussing
Joe Glover
Jack Mecholsky
Matt Fajack

Pradeep Kumar
Student

Guests:

Mary Ann Ferguson
Jim Pettigrew
Rick Yost
John Yelton
John Wright

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM

The August Budget council minutes were approved.

The council discussed the shared governance process in the College of Journalism and Communications budget decisions with Dean Wright. Dean Wright explained that, unlike in other markets, listenership of WRUF declined during the day. Dean Wright explained that the budget situation prompting the decision to change the radio station's format occurred during the summer and the information was presented to the faculty in September. The proposed changes to the station were discussed with faculty and staff working at the station but not 9 month faculty since this occurred during the summer. The college faculty agreed that the decision was in the best interest of the students' education but the decision making process could be improved. The college's senate will work to create a process for future summer consultation.

Wright explained that due to the academic mission of the college the students needed increased opportunities to be on the air. He explained that logistically the HD2 station is too small for students to run a newsroom. He also explained that every station that has made this change has seen increased revenue.

Jack Mecholsky stated that the college provided a service to the community by providing classical music. Dean Wright acknowledged that it is regrettable that they do not have the capacity to have both types of stations and stated that the college has an educational mission that it needs to uphold for the students.

David Quillen expressed concern over the use of consulting reports that are not public records. As a public institution the council wonders if it is worth paying for reports that are not available.

The council discussed alternative proposals to the proposed sick leave payout including a possible phase out of sick leave. The council also discussed the possibility of using stimulus money for sick leave payout or freezing hours for faculty who have been at UF for over 10 years.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM