Notes from Executive Committee Meeting, April 17, 2006

Present: Gail Naughton, Jim Lackritz, Ken Marino, Sharon Lightner, Nik Variaya, John Penrose, Gangaram Singh, Joe Belch, Deb Tomic, Sandy Ehrlich, Karen Courtney

The Executive Committee met from 11:00 AM - 12:40 PM in the Dean’s Conference Room.

Jim gave an overview on the faculty grant requests for teaching and curriculum issues. There were requests for $160,000 in funds and we were able to fund almost $120,000 in grants. There was a discussion that with more time to prepare for this next year, if funds are available, we should be better able to define criteria for the requests. Jim will work with the Chairs on these issues.

There was a discussion on the end of the year staff awards process. The Professional Development Committee (PDC) makes the decision on the awards, but being composed of five faculty members and the Associate Dean, is not always in the best position to understand the accomplishments of the staff if they do not work with them directly. Also, there was a concern that we give out too many awards, for both faculty and staff, so this diminishes the value of the awards. Jim will bring the issue back to the PDC to discuss revamping the awards for next year and how we can create more value to the awards.

Ken reported on graduate recruiting efforts. He and his staff have made concerted efforts to attend conferences and events that would be likely to attract prospective students. Applications are up approximately 20% from a year ago, so we are optimistic about being able to have some decent numbers for next year. Also, the Provost has committed money for guaranteed GA research stipends to try to attract high quality students who would be qualified to go to higher prestige programs. We have received $24,000, which will be given out to 12 new students as 10-hour research GA positions for the Fall. So far, we have had one acceptance.

Gail briefly mentioned the end of year reports to the Provost. Chairs were reminded that in addition to the normal plan for the upcoming academic year, which will include requests for new faculty lines, Nancy wants an update on the last 3-5 years that will outline how new hires have benefited the department and college. In addition, Chairs should note any progress they want to highlight (rankings, new director hires, new MBAs or undergraduate new majors, CIBER progress, etc). The Chairs agreed to have their plan drafts submitted by June 1 to give Gail a chance to coordinate all plans in the college report to Nancy Marlin.

The Chairs gave a recruiting update. It appears that we will fill 9 of the 14 tenure-track faculty positions for next year, with unfilled positions in Accounting (Tax), Finance (Corporate Finance and Real Estate), IDS (Statistics), and Marketing (IMC). Gail will ask that the unfilled positions be rolled over to next year. In addition, Joe announced that
Matt Aistrich has accepted a position at Penn State beginning next year, so he is down one additional position for next year.

John announced that he, Jan Andersen, Ken, and several IDS faculty members will meet with the Interim Provost and Incoming Provost from Claremont on Thursday to discuss the joint PhD program we have proposed.