SEC Meeting, January 25, 2006

Members present

Stephen Ferreira, John Engel, Halina Zaleski, Brent Sipes

Meeting called to order by President Steve Ferreira at 1:00 PM

Minutes of previous SEC meeting approved as distributed.

SEC members were polled as to their availability for future SEC meeting times.  3:00-4:30 on Thursdays appeared to be best time for future SEC meetings.

Report on CTAHR 01/25/06 Leadership Meeting (by President Steve Ferreira)

The results of the CTAHR Priority Staffing Plan Voting in December, 2005 were summarized (handout). Of the top three ranked positions, the Dean approved proceeding with search/hire of an Asst Ext Agt, 4-H/Youth development in East Hawaii, and intends to fill the other two (of top 3), an NREM Asst Specialist on Invasive Species Management and an APT Academic Support position for the Oahu Urban Garden Center, but will hold off on hiring these two until he sees the Legislative reaction to the College’s previous requests.

There was discussion of new positions to be proposed in the future. Subgroups are working on positions related to (1) aquaculture certificate program, (2) aging and early childhood education, (3) sustainable farming systems, and (4) bioenergy.

At the Leadership meeting, Associate Dean Charley Kinsohita reported on “perceived deficiencies in contract-renewal and tenure and promotion process” (handout) in the College. He suggested that some work may be needed to “tighten” and make procedures/process consistent across faculty and departments in CTAHR. The SEC decided to refer this issue to the Senate’s Personnel Committee, to ask it to contact Charley for more information and to look into related issues and concerns.

Committee Reports:

No Committee reports.

Dean’s Report

Dean Hashimoto reported on the current funding request situation at the Legislature. It’s important that College representatives communicate effectively with the chairs of
appropriate Legislative committees. College faculty are asked to help identify appropriate individuals that might communicate with Legislators.

Prior Senate reactions to efforts to make College T & P procedures consistent across departments were referred to Ruddy Wong. Steve Ferreira will request a meeting with Ruddy and Charley on personnel issues.

Dean Hashimoto was asked to report on the “Big Picture” of college funding and future, rather than have separate Associate Dean reports, at the next Senate meeting on February 23, 2006.

Charter Revision

Brent Sipes proposed numerous revisions to Senate Charter and ByLaws, and raised issues for SEC discussion. The revised Charter and ByLaws will be presented and explained to the Senate as a whole at it’s next meeting.

Proposed Agenda Items for Next Senate Meeting:
(1) Dean’s report
(2) Senate Charter Revision Proposal
(3) Action Items from Committees (only, no informational committee reports).