



Senate Document SD 09-9
Approved, 3/15/2010

THE SENATE
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FROM: The IPFW Senate

TO: President Córdova, Vice President of Finance Diaz, Purdue Calumet Senate (via Sam Liles, Chair), Purdue North Central Senate (via Jason Curtis, Chair), Howie Zelaznik, Chair, Purdue University Senate, Joe Camp, Secretary of the Faculties.

SUBJECT: Liles memo of March 3, 2010

DATE: March 15, 2010

Whereas, the IPFW Senate has received a copy of the Liles memo of March 3, 2010, and

Whereas, we recognize similar interests and concerns therein,

Be it resolved:

The IPFW Senate expresses similar concerns as those outlined by Samuel Liles, Chair, Purdue Calumet Faculty Senate, in his memo of March 3, 2010 regarding "Representation of Regional Faculty".

From: Samuel Liles, Chair Purdue Calumet Faculty Senate
To: Purdue Calumet Faculty Senators; PNC, IPFW, PWL Faculty Chairs
PUC Administration; Joe Camp, Secretary of the Faculties
Al Diaz, Vice President Finance
Subj: Representation of Regional Faculty
Date: March 3, 2010

I am writing to share my concern with you about the process Purdue University has initiated to address the financial difficulties of the current economic crisis. As State appropriations for undergraduate education are being substantially reduced, units at all levels of the Purdue University system have been required to review current budgets and plan for reductions that will have *the least negative impact* on undergraduate education. Purdue has always been run as a lean organization, but we now will have to make fiduciary reductions, which cut to bone.

To address these issues, the President of Purdue University has created a *Sustaining New Synergies Task Force* to devise and evaluate potential reductions in the Purdue system budget needed to meet this crisis. This internal task force has been populated with various faculty, deans, and administrators from the West Lafayette campus. Executive Vice President Al Diaz and President Córdova have both spoken to the inclusive nature of this committee. The regional campus governance groups are not represented on this committee. This is a continuing problem of regional campuses not having representation in system-wide changes or decisions.

In April, the Board of Trustees will be hearing recommendations on substantive cost-cutting measures which have been developed with *no input* from the 26% of Purdue faculty who are not located in West Lafayette -- *those 26% of the unrepresented faculty teach over 43% of the undergraduates in the Purdue system* (using 2007-08 data). These recommendations include reducing faculty retirement contributions to 10% (while increasing salary by approximately 4.7%) and changes in health care compensation, which will increase employee costs by about 8% (*nearly a 50% increase in faculty health care costs*).

The University has not invited regional faculty representation as it formulated proposals to alter the structure of faculty benefits. The lack of representation is especially troubling. It has been suggested that there may be further rounds of cost-cutting resulting in further reductions in compensation and benefits for those at regional campuses. Regional governance participants were never sought in matters that have direct and extensive consequence to their university campuses. The regional campus governance groups each sought representation, and at this point have not been given a voice.

It is my request that the senior administration of Purdue West Lafayette consider actual, substantive regional representation in *any* matters that affect all faculties of the Purdue system. Operating with one-quarter of the faculty unrepresented and nearly half the students without voice is simply not a collegial form of leadership.

Sincerely,

Samuel Liles

On behalf of the Purdue University Calumet Faculty Senate