Minutes of the Budget Committee Meeting
March 12, 2008

Present: Meric Keskinel (Academic Senate), John Oester (Adminstration), Olga Shewfelt (AFT Faculty Guild), Isabella Chung (Resource), Hansel Tsai (Resource).

Absent: Eloise Crippens (Academic Senate), Tom Haley (AFT Faculty), JoAnn Haywood (AFT Classified), Dionne Morrissette (AFT Classified), Betsy Regalado (Administration), Abel Rodriguez (Local 721), Robert Sprague (Administration), ASO student representative.

Handouts: 1) Revenue and Expense Budget vs. Actual summaries for 2006-07 through 2007-08 and Revenue and Expense Budget summary for 2008-09
2) Budget account detail for 2007-08 and 2008-09

The college Operational Plan will be submitted in May 2008 based on the preliminary District revenue allocation. The “final” revenue allocation will be given to the college in August of 2008. The August 2008 allocation does not include funds generated from projected FTES growth in FY 08-09.

$1 has been budgeted in the instructional cost centers for adjunct faculty salaries because the total budget for adjunct salaries is initially aggregated within the Academic Administration cost center. Budget will be moved as needed during the year based on the actual distribution of expenses to each discipline.

Campuses that decline in enrollment do not suffer a reduced revenue budget in the next year – they are “held harmless.” The shortfall caused by any decline in enrollment is taken from District reserves. In the current fiscal year, campuses that grow in enrollment are paid 100% of the statewide growth funding rate for their FTES enrollment up to a specified limit for the college (its “cap”), then the college is paid 50% of the statewide growth funding rate for any FTES enrollment above that limit.

The first budget allocation for 2008-09 is based on the college’s previous FTES targets. In August 2008, when the final enrollment data for the 2007-08 year becomes available, the budget allocation and FTES targets for 08-09 will be adjusted to actual numbers based on the 2007-08 fiscal year. The District has not yet resolved how to allocate 2008-09 growth funds if any are received, largely because of the uncertainty in the state budget.

Our 2007-08 year FTES target is 7,243. In order to balance the budget next year, we need to grow to 7,500 FTES. 7,500 FTES is a growth rate of 3.5% if we achieve 7,243 FTES this year. 7,500 FTES is a growth rate of 5.6% if we achieve only 7,100 FTES in the current fiscal year. Our growth rate in the current year is 7.15% over 2006-07. 7,500 FTES should be achievable as students see that we are building new facilities on campus and they get excited about coming to WLAC. Another factor in our favor may actually be that the economy is slowing, which has resulted in increased enrollment in the past.

Next meeting: April 23rd at 1:30 pm. In Winlock Lounge.
-Update on current year budget
-Any information available from the April 16th District Budget Committee meeting