Council of Chairs Meeting of February 9, 2004
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Members Present: Julio R. Blanco (SC&M), Doris Helfer (LIB), William P. Jennings Jr. (B&E), Rie Rogers Mitchell (EDU), David Moon (AMC), Sid Schwartz (CECS), Gregory Velazco y Trianosky (HUM), and Nathan Weinberg (S&BS).

Members Absent: Janet Adams (HHD), (excused.)

Substitutes for Members: none

Guests: Randy Reynaldo (Executive Assistant to the President) and Claire Cavallaro (Chief of Staff.)

Presenters/discussants: Jolene Koester (President.)

1. The minutes of the December 15, 2003 meeting were approved with no corrections.

2. President Koester discussed issues related to the learning-centered university. She reiterated the concerns that she expressed in her 2003-04 annual convocation speech. In particular, (1) increased enrollment pressures, (2) an eroding financial base, and (3) the need to be accountable for our mission. Accountability outside the academy has been an important issue. We can address it by adopting a centered-learning university structure. This presents an internal challenge to be willing to redefine the way we teach. We should not think in terms of a single course, but rather examine an entire program. Assessment of our programs can provide the methodology to meet this need. President Koester asks us all to address this issue in the coming months. An external speaker later this semester will discuss what it means for higher education institutions to be 'learning-centered.' A more intense schedule will follow during the Fall 2004 semester.

3. The Council MSP a motion to request that the Extended Cabinet table the University Corporation's draft recommendations on the University Licensing Policy until thorough consultation has taken place with groups affected by the recommendations.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m. The next Council of Chairs meeting will be held on Monday, March 15, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. in the Oviatt Library Room 102C.

Respectfully submitted: Julio R. Blanco, Chair
Council of Chairs