**Clerk’s Committee Minutes - February 9, 2015 8:30 am – Special meeting with President Fernandes**

**Clerk’s Members Attending:** Adrienne Israel, Lisa McLeod, Jeffrey Ray, Dave Dobson, Sherry Giles, Steve Shapiro, Edwins Gwako, Zhihong Chen

Jimmy Wilson (CFO) and Jane Fernandes (President) also attended

Minutes taken by Dave Dobson.

**Meeting summary:**

After Clerk’s Committee communicated to the President a statement of concern about recent changes in the tuition remission policy, Jane invited Clerk’s Committee to meet with her and Jimmy about the recent changes in the tuition remission policy. This meeting took place during our normal meeting time.

Jimmy and Jane communicated the reasoning behind the policy changes and the steps the process had followed. The discussion was wide-ranging. Clerk’s Committee members shared concerns about four areas: (1) the impact on employees who were planning on benefits being similar to previous years, (2) concerns about other details of the new policy, such as the eight-term limit, (3) the calculation of costs to the college for these benefits, and (4) the process through which the changes were instituted and announced. There was also discussion of the process for making changes to the handbook.

Looking forward, Jimmy indicated that the policy would be discussed in Benefits Committee soon, and Jane indicated a final resolution of the policy changes and possible adjustments for families currently using the benefit or about to use it would be forthcoming once she finishes discussions with impacted people. The whole discussion took about an hour.

Following the discussion of tuition remission, Clerk’s Committee discussed with Jane and Jimmy other items relevant to both Clerk’s and the President. These included the ongoing process for considering budget reductions, the upcoming faculty forum on budget and budget cuts and the potential structure and topics for that forum, and the schedule for departments submitting position requests.

Clerk’s Committee approved a topic of budget and budget reductions for the faculty forum to be held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015.

Clerk’s Committee and Jane approved the schedule proposed last week for departmental position requests for searches in 2015-16.

The meeting ended at 9:50 a.m.