Members Present: Dana Edwards, Kris Erway, Karina Garbesi, Armando Gonzales, Bonnie Ho, José López (Chair), Nancy Mangold, Saeid Motavalli, Bruce Trumbo

Members Absent: Terry Kelly, Don Wort

Visitors: Bob Brauer, Stanley Clark, Norma Rees, Julia Norton, Don Sawyer, Dave Travis

1. Agenda Approved with no additions.

2. Approval of the minutes of the December 3, 2004 meeting.

   Approved as corrected. M/S Motavalli/Mangold

3. Report of the Chair

   López introduced Bonnie Ho from the College of Education and Allied Studies, who is replacing Sawyer on COBRA beginning this quarter. López has met with the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate and gave them a progress report on COBRA’s activities this year, including information about the upcoming meetings with the COCs and librarians. He brought attention to the COBRA timeline planning sheet which was distributed to COBRA members in the Fall.

   López then asked if President Rees would like to comment on the Governor’s speech earlier in the week. Rees stressed that the Governor had talked about K-12 but had not mentioned higher education, and therefore there is no significant new information about funding for higher education. When the initial state budget plan is released in January, there will be more specific information. Garbesi mentioned a recent article from the San Francisco Chronicle which cast a bleak picture for long-term economic recovery in California. López stated that a recent RAND study listed California in 44th place among the 50 states in per-student spending in K-12. Brauer stressed the importance of CSU information outreach to the community about higher education funding needs. Rees said that the Trustees’ budget request, which is based on the Governor’s Compact with the UC and CSU, has been delivered, which includes funding for new enrollment targets and a general salary increase for CSU employees. Clark said that a preliminary report on the current quarter enrollment will be available later in the day.

4. Goals—Ad Hoc Committees’ Progress Reports
López asked for reports from the COBRA ad-hoc committees. Garbesi has met with Clark and Erway to determine what should be included in a standard budget report system. She stated that there is still some concern with the defining of functional levels, and that COBRA needs to have more discussion on this issue. López suggested that Mangold and he meet with Garbesi to assist in this process, and Garbesi consented.

Motavalli and Wort have met with the Vice President of Business Affairs. Motavalli is developing questions in order to get input into recovery planning.

Sawyer and Wort have been having continuing discussions with the Provost and Chair of CAPR. Clark expects to have recommendations about the tenure-track request and allocation process from the Deans when he meets on Monday with Sawyer and the Chair of CAPR.

5. Develop process for COC/COBRA sessions

López began discussion of these sessions by stating that they should be very informative and worthwhile. The COCs’ perspectives may be different that that of the Deans, although it is hoped there will be alignment. López will chair the meetings. COBRA decided to meet a half hour before the sessions begin. They will be held in the Biella Room in the Library, with the exception of the February 4 meeting, which will be held in an alternative location in the Library. A discussion began about whether or not to tape record the sessions. Sawyer indicated that this would be acceptable practice if the tapes were erased after they are used. It was stressed that these recordings would only be used to assist the COBRA secretary in production of the minutes of the meetings with the COCs and librarians. Motavalli expressed concern about the possibility of a recording having an inhibiting effect on the meetings. Clark stated that recording of meetings is an accepted practice for IRA meetings if the recordings are not to be used for transcript purposes and are erased immediately after the secretary is finished with them. Sawyer indicated that according to the Academic Senate Bylaws, COBRA would first need Senate approval in order to record the meetings. Edwards said that he was comfortable with not recording the meetings, although a recording would be useful in the production of minutes. It was decided that the meetings will be recorded if feasible for use by the Secretary.

6. New Business

There was no new business.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 am.
Respectfully submitted,
Dana Edwards, Secretary