

Minutes of Resources and Environment Committee meeting: January 14, 2014

The R&E Committee of the Faculty Senate met on January 14, 2014 at 3:00 P.M. in room 3135 Nelson Hall.

In attendance: Lucy Bradley, Mike Devetsikiotas, Bryan Laffite, Paola Sztajn, Ed Funkhouser, and Paul Williams. John Heitmann and Rob Rucker were absent.

The Committee met with Greg Cain and Michael Ousdahl from Transportation Services to receive an explanation for the 3% parking fee increase for the 2014-2015 academic year. In 2012 the University developed a 10-year campus mobility plan to cope with the anticipated growth in campus transportation needs. All of the 1-2 year proposed improvements have been implemented. Currently Transportation is working on the 3-5 elements of the plan. The original plan anticipated that growth would necessitate the introduction of 60-foot articulated buses, but the anticipated growth has not been realized as yet, so the introduction of articulated buses has been deferred. To deal with the growth that has occurred, six additional 40 foot buses will be added. To pay for the addition of this new capacity, the average increase in parking fees will be 3%. [The proposed Transportation budget is appended to these minutes]

Paola Sztajn also discussed her issue of concern about the possibility of creating a research foundation at NC State to administer its national grants. Other universities, e.g., UGa and San Diego State U have such foundations. A benefit of such a foundation would be the ability to have F&A funds available to support research programs during the possible lulls between grants. The committee decided to pursue this issue and plans to invite Teri Lomax to our next meeting as the starting place for considering the feasibility of a foundation.