To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

The Faculty Executive Committee for the Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management met eleven times during the academic year. Initially, the committee identified seven main tasks:

1) Modes of communication between the administration and the faculty [Up and down] – Discussed the kind of issues that require full faculty meeting discussion or quick FEC resolution. A protocol for communication was developed and agreed to by the faculty and administration.

2) Budget Review – the FEC worked with administration to set the budget.

3) Development Program:
   a. Corporate Partners program is in good shape and yielding small income in addition to job opportunities for our students.
   b. Larger-scale program is successfully raising money, but in need of some further review and possibly re-direction.
   c. Suggestions from the FEC: two-pronged approach.
      i. Diversified strategy driven through links between the Development Officer and individual faculty (currently in operation).
      ii. Strategic approach driven by a stable three-person group of “officers”: Dean, Associate Dean and FEC Chair to provide direction to the Development Officer and to provide the development Officer with support in face-to-face encounters with donors.

4) Role of the Advisory Board: A work in progress
   a. Board needs articulation of and reminding of its mission to provide School with strategic advice from the members’ diverse external perspectives.
   b. Faculty should support Dean in efforts to accomplish this smoothly.
   c. FEC assisted the Dean in compiling a list of 5-10 nominees for Board membership to be recommended to the Board and the Chancellor.

5) Curriculum and Assignment of Teaching Responsibilities (after reviewing MESM reports on the structure of the curriculum).

6) Implications of the changed Bren gift.

7) Longer-term implications of recent and planned faculty growth.

The FEC committee was able to work on items 1-4 during this academic year. They will take up items 5-7 when they return from the summer break.

The committee reviewed the Bren School budget for the 2007-08 academic year in detail. Working with the administration, who did some necessary trimming of the budget, it appears that the budget will be in good shape for the coming year.

The FEC also plans and leads the faculty retreats for the year. This past year one retreat was held to make some decisions on the filling of vacant FTE positions. We currently have three open FTE and four presentations for the FTE positions were put forward. After an extensive discussion the faculty were asked to vote by secret ballot on the FTE positions. A secret ballot vote was conducted.
The FEC also conducted a secret ballot to elect two new members and the Chair of the committee for the coming academic year.

Members of the Faculty Executive Committee

Professors:
Chris Costello
Jim Frew
Arturo Keller (Fall & Winter quarters)
Tom Dunne

Assistant Dean Laura Haston
Dean Ernst von Weizsäcker (Ex Officio)
Associate Dean John Melack (Ex Officio)
Assistant to the committee, Doris Bleecher

Reviewed and accepted:

Chris Costello, Associate Professor
Jim Frew, Associate Professor
Arturo Keller, Professor
Tom Dunne, Professor and Chair