This year the Faculty Budget Committee met six times, three times each semester, usually during the week of the Faculty Senate meetings. These meetings generally lasted one hour and were very fruitful.

We accomplished several things during the year.

- Wrote a Budget Guide for the faculty explaining the budget process at the University of South Carolina
- Worked with the Faculty Advisory Committee to amend the Faculty Manual to incorporate a mandate for the Budget Committee
- Provided input to University budget policy via the ABPAC (Academic Budget Policy Advisory Committee)
- Discussed an agenda for future issues concerning the budget process

We discuss each area more detail below.

A copy of the Budget Guide is available on-line at: www.sc.edu/faculty/PDF/BudgetGuide.pdf. Writing this report took the bulk of our time. Most of our early meetings were dedicated to discussing the direction it should take, while our later meetings were spent refining it and adding to it. We consulted several times with the Budget Director (Leslie Brunelli) and the Associate Provost for Finance (Ted Moore), both of whom answered many questions for us.

Until now, the Faculty Manual had not described the purpose of the Budget Committee. Last year (AY 2004 – 05), it was determined that it was important to establish a clear task for this committee. Accordingly, in the Spring of 2005 such language was crafted and sent to the Faculty Advisory Committee for their review and recommendation to the general faculty. This process continued in AY 2005 – 06, with the result that such language was passed by the general faculty during the April 26 meeting. That language reads: “This committee serves as a liaison between the University Administration and the University Faculty (through the Faculty Senate) on matters
pertaining to the University budget, advocates the faculty perspective on matters of budget and budgetary policy, and provides a venue for discussing faculty questions and concerns about the University budget and budgeting process. To accomplish its purpose, the Faculty Budget Committee shall have formal representation on, and input to University budget policy. The Chair of the Faculty Budget Committee and the Chair of the Faculty Senate shall serve as voting members on the University-level budget policy committee.”

The Chair of the Budget Committee (with the Faculty Senate President) attended the two ABPAC meetings this year. This provided an excellent opportunity for the Committee to learn more about the budget process. It was also helpful to the administration, we hope, since it provided some input into the budget process from the faculty perspective. Attending the meetings allowed the Committee to write a better report.

Finally, the Committee used its last two meetings to discuss directions that the next Chair, Dr. Jamil Khan, might pursue in the coming academic year. Perhaps the most important issue to discuss is the proposal to change the college funding formula to reflect cost of delivery in addition to college size.

Respectfully submitted,

John McDermott, Chair (Economics)

for the Committee:

Linda Allman, Faculty Welfare Past Chair (Continuing Education)
James Augustine, Faculty Senate Past President (School of Medicine)
Judy Alexander, Faculty Advisory Chair (Nursing)
Mark Becker, Provost (ex-officio)
Timir Datta Faculty Advisory Past Chair (Physics and Astronomy)
Jamil Khan, Chair Elect (Engineering)
Gene Reeder, Faculty Senate President (Pharmacy)
William Rivers (English)
Marja Warehime, Faculty Welfare Chair (Languages)

May 9, 2006