

**Welfare Council Special Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**February 9, 2011**  
**4-5 PM**  
**226 Tigert**

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**Attendees:**

Angel Kwolek-Folland  
Deanna Pelfrey  
Paula Fussell

Tony Offerle  
Heather McAuslane  
Mary Ann Ferguson  
Monika Ardelt

Bernie Machen  
Jamal Sowell  
Sue Alvers

Acting Chair Deanna Pelfrey called to order at 4:02 p.m.

**Faculty Benefits Discussion**

President Machen noted that the Governor has released his budget. Gov. Scott is proposing changes in the state employee's retirement and health benefits. Currently the state puts in 10.42% towards retirement. Instead, the Governor is asking for employees to pay for 5% of that 10.42%. Another proposal is to have new employees participate in the state's investment plan instead of the current programs. It appears that there might be a small increase in premiums for the state health plan starting July 1, 2011. There is concern, however, about what the Governor is proposing for the state health plan's future. Dr. Machen asked the Welfare Council to provide input and participation. The Council agreed to become fully briefed on the university's current health and retirement plans subsequent to the seeing the legislature budget proposal. Council members were asked to talk to faculty and staff, maybe have some town hall meetings, to find out what staff and faculty think the priorities are for the university in case we do have some choice on benefit cuts. It's important to note that the legislature meets in March and they will also have a budget proposal. At the moment, no one really knows how things will play out, but the university needs to be prepared.

**Minutes from September 2010**

Minutes were approved.

After a short discussion, it was decided that to prepare for future meetings, Paula Fussell will send the council fact sheets comparing our current benefit plans with what the Governor proposes. Council members will seek input from faculty and then will meet again in a couple weeks. Members mentioned that Wednesday (Feb. 23) afternoon is a good time. Sue will send out a request to other council members and confirm the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.