

**Budget & Planning Committee
Minutes
January 31, 2018**

Present: Cody Stoddard, Sathy Rajendran, Julia Stringfellow, Kathy Whitcomb, Paul Knepper, Stephen Stein, George Drake, Ken Smith, Lad Holden, Kathy Temple, and Jim Johnson

Absent: Ian Loverro, Michael Young, and Duane Dowd

Guest(s): Mike Harrod and Tim Englund

Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

Steve moved to recommend to the Executive Committee (EC) to request a substitute for Aimée until she returns from leave. Paul seconded, and motion was approved.

The January 17, 2018 minutes were approved as amended.

General Education - Mike Harrod and Kathy W talked about what the General Education Implementation Task Force (GEITF) is doing. The task force is trying to anticipate the questions that might be bubbling up around General Education. Budget is a big piece of this. The College of Arts and Humanities (CAH) hold will potentially be resolved, pending a motion from the EC about course caps. Three questions were sent from Curriculum Committee to the General Education Committee (GEC) for a response on the proposed General Education program change. The draft from GEC seems to address the questions well. Mike, Cody, Eric and Sathy have been drafting some estimates of costs. Cody and Mike talked with the Provost and presented a quick estimate of \$500,000. Joel is now looking over the numbers. There doesn't appear to be huge shifts of courses offered by college from the existing to the new program. Mike indicated they roughly used \$74 per credit coming back to college. Paul said that ADCO had talked about requesting a three-year moratorium on impact to departments or positions for General Education. George indicated that there are some structural issues being brought up with the General Education program. There is a view there is not enough math or English. Ken said there are some questions that need to be answered like: What is the governance structure? How much money or project management people should be set aside to do this implementation? Ken asked the committee if BPC would want to put a hold on the program from a budget perspective. Mike indicated that GEITF is making the recommendation to move implementation to Fall 2019. Joel is working to get David the time to work on General Education.

Ken moved that based on the lack of a formal budget plan for General Education implementation, the Faculty Senate Budget Committees does not support implementation in the Fall of 2018. Sathy seconded, and motion failed.

Kathy T moved that based on the need for additional planning and coordination the Faculty Senate Budget Committee does not support implementation of the new General Education program in the Fall of 2018. Cody seconded, and motion approved.

Cody talked about the last BEC meeting. He spoke at BEC about incorporating General Education into the budget model. This needs to be done carefully, so it doesn't harm colleges.

Budget Proposals - Potential budget proposals for Fall 19 should be on the Budget website.

Ken asked what problem is the university trying to solve with RCM? Who is responsible for the \$1 million deficit? Joel has indicated that they were going to try and not have it come out of the colleges.

The committee talked about the proposed 50-50 budget split proposal. There was discussion that the shift from 48% to 50% on a \$100 million budget is about \$2 million. When you divide that out it between the colleges it doesn't amount to much. Cody talked about a strategy of changing how the model is used. Look at critical overhead, then look at core offerings for colleges and fund those. Then look at non-critical overhead, then creative innovation. It would put academic in the critical funding of the institution rather than an afterthought. Kathy W talked about groupings of colleges could make a difference as well. These are organizational issues. Ken asked what is the framing we want the University to have as it enters this budget year? Current model does not put academics front and center because it puts overhead first. For this year we want to limit the amount it comes off the top. Want them to start with a smaller off the top number. This reduces our confidence in administrative if they can't come up with an overhead budget that values academics. Tim indicated that the 50-50 split will probably occur at some time if efficiency targets are taken off the colleges but remains on non-academic units.

Instruction has been around 38% and has recently dropped to 35% of the budget. There should be more funds going to direct instruction. The decrease of funding for instruction is hampering our ability to deliver to the current students, accommodate the new students that are projected to come in next year as well.

Kathy T indicated the committee isn't necessarily comfortable with the 50-50 budget idea. The committee is comfortable saying the budget needs to prioritize academics and put academics front and center and specifically to put funding towards direct instruction.

The Committee will continue this discussion next week.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.