

## Budget Advisory Committee Meeting

1:30 p.m., 3/10/11

- The minutes of the BAC meeting on 1/13/11 were approved. They may be shared with others outside the committee as necessary.
  - It was mentioned that an explanation of what “fund balances” are would be helpful, both to those inside and outside the committee. Diane Newton will write an explanation and send it to Lynn Burley so that it can be made available to the committee and any others who are interested.
- Diane Newton went over two handouts: the Cash Position Statement and the Operating Summary.
  - Cash Position Statement – as of 2/28/11
    - Cash balance was at \$47 million; this is a healthy amount, but not enough to have excess to spend. Much of this is in unexpended plant funds, endowment, etc.
    - \$29 million of our net cash position was unrestricted.
    - At this point, our end-of-year cash position can be fairly closely estimated based on the rates it was used last year.
    - The only income we expect to receive between now and the end of the fiscal year is from state appropriations and some summer tuition income.
  - Operating Summary
    - As compared to this time last year, we have received \$33.5 million of our state appropriations instead of the \$37.4 million we’d received last year; the state has been holding back a few hundred thousand dollars from the last few distributions. Not sure why this is happening, but do not believe our budget will be cut or that the “B” money will not flow.
- We have budgeted on flat enrollment, and we will do so again for next fiscal year. At this point, Admissions is down about 300 applications as compared to this time last year; however, a new \$25 application fee has been instated, and that may be keeping those from applying who in the past have applied without intent of attending. Housing applications are about 30 higher than they were at this time last year, so that is a promising indication.

## ● Budget Requests

- Diane Newton presented the “Summary Critical Needs Requests” handout that was compiled for Executive Staff. This lists the critical needs with campus-wide impacts that cannot already be funded from within their respective divisions.
  - Critical needs for Academic Affairs were not included because the President had already approved funding of \$750,000 for faculty positions.
  - This was not a ranked list
  - The money to fund these needs would come from contingencies if they end up being included in the final budget

● Next year’s budget will be extremely tight, especially if enrollment is down again. Money should be held aside in every division’s budget in case of such an occurrence.

● Tuition increases for next year – currently looking at a 3.97% increase, or \$5.05 per credit hour for general tuition. *Nothing is final at this point.* The tuition and fee rates for next year will be determined at the May board meeting.

## ● SPARC

- The lists that were produced at the SPARC meetings were surprisingly and encouragingly consistent between the different campus entities that submitted them. At a later date, the SPARC committee will estimate costs for the initiatives.

● Over the summer months, Diane will provide monthly budget/financial information to the chair of the BAC. These will be sent out via email to the BAC members. In the event that something significant happens budget-wise, the committee will schedule a meeting at that time.

● The new chair of the Board of Trustees has appointed each board member to a campus committee corresponding to each area of campus. These committees are to meet quarterly. Member(s) of the BAC should be on the committee for the board member meeting with the Finance & Administration area of campus.

● The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.