2012-2013 Academic Year

COMMITTEE: University Budget Committee

1. Membership (include ex-officio members).

Elected Members
John Given, Chair
Jeff Popke, Vice Chair
Alexandra Shlapentokh, Secretary
Maureen Ellis
Todd Fraley
Robert Kulesher
Kirk St. Amant

Ex-Officio Members
Joe Gaddis
Anne Jenkins
Anthony Overton
Rachel Roper
Rick Niswander
Gary Vanderpool
Wanda Wynne
Eric Green, replaced by Jesse Breaux in spring semester (student representatives)

2. Meeting Dates (include members present*).
*and members who contributed to committee action, but were not at the meeting.

- August 23, 2012: Fraley, Given, Kulesher, Popke, Shlapentokh, St. Amant; Gaddis, Green, Niswander, Roper, Vanderpool; Guest: Chair of the Faculty Mark Spague
- September 20, 2012: Fraley, Given, Kulesher, Popke, Shlapentokh, St. Amant; Gaddis, Jenkins, Niswander, Roper, Vanderpool, Wynne; Excused: Overton (teaching conflict)
- October 18, 2012: Ellis, Fraley, Given, Kulesher, Popke, Shlapentokh, St. Amant; Gaddis, Jenkins, Overton, Roper, Vanderpool, Wynne
- November 15, 2012: Meeting canceled; informal subcommittee meetings held instead
- January 17, 2013: Ellis, Fraley, Given, Kulesher, Popke, Shlapentokh; Breaux, Gaddis, Jenkins, Overton, Roper, Vanderpool, Wynne; Guest: Vice Chancellor & Provost Marilyn Sheerer; Excused: St. Amant (teaching conflict)
- February 21, 2013: Fraley, Given, Popke, Shlapentokh; Gaddis, Jenkins, Overton, Vanderpool, Wynne; Excused: St. Amant (teaching conflict)
- March 21, 2013: Ellis, Fraley, Kulesher, Popke (presiding), Shlapentokh; Gaddis, Jenkins, Niswander, Roper, Vanderpool, Wynne; Guest: Vice Chancellor Phyllis Horns; Excused: St. Amant (teaching conflict)
- March 28, 2013: Ellis, Given, Kulesher, Popke, Shlapentokh; Gaddis, Jenkins, Niswander, Overton, Roper, Wynne; Guest: Chancellor Steve Ballard; Excused: St. Amant (teaching conflict)
3. Subcommittees established during the year (include progress and/or completion of work).
   - Budget Primer: Given, Popke, Overton, Wynne. The subcommittee considered the work done in the previous year on the budget primer, and decided to discard it and take a different approach. Models for the primer were examined. About 20–25 pages were written, but the primer is not yet finished.

   - Entrepreneurial Initiatives: Fraley, Roper, Ellis. The subcommittee solicited information from campus deans and directors about initiatives taken to provide alternate funding for units, whether the initiatives were successful, and what impediments units faced. The subcommittee collected only three responses.

4. Accomplishments during the year, especially as addressed through committee goals. Please include recommendations made to any University agency other than the Faculty Senate that will be noted under #5.

   - The UBC set eight goals at the beginning of the year. The first three were carried over from 2012–13; the latter five are new.

   1. Complete the budget primer. Progress was made, but work remains.
   2. Continue communication with administration and campus with regard to PPC-related budgetary matters. PPC-related matters were addressed in meetings with the Provost, the VC for Health Sciences and the Chancellor. The committee’s end-of-year report to the Senate likewise included information about the continuing effectiveness of PPC recommendations.
   3. Maintain the committee’s webpage with up-to-date information. This goal is secondary to #1, the budget primer, and cannot be completed until the primer is completed.
   4. Study the new Board of Governors-mandated performance measures. These were addressed in meetings with the Provost, VC for Health Science and the Chancellor, and in particular in discussions with VC Niswander. The UBC recognizes that, in the new budget climate created by the Governor’s budget proposal and in the ongoing legislative session, the status of the performance measures and the funding behind them are uncertain.
   5. Try to define the “new normal” from a budgetary perspective as a guide to our expectations for the future. This goal guided the committee’s report to the Senate in April 2013. The report described the current budgetary situation and described the long-term challenges that face the university because of the budget.
   6. Re-establish the practice of inviting administrators to committee meetings to discuss their areas. This was accomplished with invitations to VCs Sheerer and Horns and Chancellor Ballard.
   7. Study impediments to external fund-raising and entrepreneurial ideas, and whether the impediments are genuine or can be overcome; conversely, establish a roster of successful fund-raising ideas and practices. The subcommittee entrusted with this task solicited the required data, but only received three responses. Further attempts at data collection are ongoing.
   8. Participate in the university’s strategic planning, as part of the Board of Governors’ new initiative. At the beginning of the year, the Committee expected an invitation to participate in strategic planning workgroups, but those workgroups were not formed.
The Committee also attempted, in consultation with the faculty officers, to pursue further all parts of its committee charge. To this end, the Committee sent a letter to the Chancellor and Vice Chancellors, dated November 27, 2012, asking (1) to participate in any campus committees that convened on matters affected by the budget and (2) to act as consultants to the Chancellor and Academic Council on regular and ad hoc budgetary decisions. The Chancellor and VC Niswander replied in a letter dated January 28, 2013, agreeing with the principles articulated in the Committee’s letter. They accepted that the Committee should act as consultants, and listed a series of questions for the Committee to consider. After the Committee devoted its February meeting to discussion of these questions, a special meeting with the Chancellor and VC Niswander was called. The meeting concluded with the agreement that similar meetings should happen on a regular basis in the future. The UBC chair included a report on this meeting in his April report to the Faculty Senate.

5. Reports to the Faculty Senate (include dates and resolution numbers).

April 16, 2013. No resolutions were presented. The Committee chair reported to the Senate on pressures the university faces from the outside, the budgetary situation at the university with particular attention to what is available (and not available) to be cut, and an agenda for moving forward by focusing on long-term, systemic solutions.

6. Business carried over to next year (list in priority order).

1. Finish the budget primer and use it to update the committee website.
2. Consolidate and regularize consulting role with Chancellor and Vice Chancellors.
3. Continue collecting entrepreneurial strategies and impediments, and publish report.

7. Evaluation of the committee (include anything that hindered or assisted the committee’s work during the year).

A. Charge: satisfactory. The committee successfully fulfilled all parts of the charge.
B. Personnel: excellent. All members contributed regularly. The faculty members, both elected and ex-officio, took active roles in committee work. The administrative members also take active roles in the committee work. They continue to be excellent resources for the committee and good colleagues.
C. Attendance: very good. All members attended regularly except in cases of excused absences.
D. Responsibilities: The workload of the committee is reasonable.
E. Activities: The committee’s activities, described in this document, were well-focused on the committee goals and charge.

8. Suggestion(s) to the Chair of the Faculty and/or Faculty Senate for improving the effectiveness of the committee.

The committee should be encouraged in the future to consult outside offices such as IPAR and the Office of Technology Transfer to gather pertinent information.

9. Does the Committee’s organizational meeting next year need to be earlier than the date set this year?

No.

If yes, when do you prefer: _______________________________
Signed: Chairperson ________________________________
     Secretary ________________________________