

**East Carolina University (ECU) Standing Academic Committee
2013/2014 University Budget Committee (UBC)**

Minutes of the April 17, 2014, meeting:

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

Attending: Jeff Popke, Todd Fraley, John Given, Robert Kulesher, Terry Atkinson, Guglielmo Fucci, Joe Gaddis, Gary Vanderpool, Wanda Wynne, Rick Niswander, Bonnie Mani, and Rachel Roper. UBC members absent from the meeting were Susan Chapman, Kirk St.Amant, and Kyle Fulk.

Minutes of the February 20, 2014, meeting were approved contingent upon correcting the spelling of John Given's name.

Jeff Popke reported on his Committee Report at the April 15 Faculty Senate meeting. Questions were raised about his pie charts, a study of faculty raises for promotions, and consideration of centralization of the pool of funds for faculty promotion raises.

VC Rick Niswander explained that all campuses in the UNC system are not required to report on how tuition dollars are spent – including how much goes to financial aid. the proportion of East Carolina University's total budget that goes to directly to student instruction compares very favorably to proportions at other university's in the University of North Carolina System.

The committee voted to approve the *Statement of Budget Principles*.

The committee voted to approve the *Budget Primer*, contingent upon addition of the names of those on the University Budget Committee who developed the *Budget Primer*.

The Governor wrote a letter to East Carolina University explaining there would be a one percent budget reduction. The Medicaid shortfall in the state budget is unknown. It is expected there will be an increase in state sales tax revenue and a shortfall due to changes in the individual income tax code. Next year ECU can expect an enrollment decrease that will affect the budget. There will be a change in the way students are billed for tuition as a result of distance education policy changes. The total shortfall we expect is about \$6 million. That's about two percent.

The University Budget Committee asked Chancellor Ballard and Vice Chancellor Niswander for a budget statement after the figure arrive from Raleigh.

Brainstorming about the budget:

UCFS received questions about opportunities for ECU faculty to give feedback to the legislature about consequences or objections to budget cuts.

- Vice Chancellor Niswander explained the each university, including ECU, has a legislative liaison that works closely with committees that make final decisions about funding.
- It was suggested that Legislative Liaison Michele Brooks be invited to a future UBC meeting.

As a member of both the UBC and the Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Women, Rachel Roper reminded us that there are few female leaders at ECU. Any budget reduction strategies that involve combining departments and colleges should be implemented without further reducing the female/male leader ratio.

The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bonnie G. Mani, Ph.D.