

Resolution #20-87

Approved by the Faculty Senate: December 1, 2020

Received by the Chancellor: January 6, 2021 with comment*

**Interim Chancellor Mitchelson: "The resolution is received. The university is committed to shared governance and transparency."*

Resolution on Budget Committees at the college level, as follows:

Whereas, the practice of shared governance is the best route to harmonious and thoughtful budget decisions to deal with funding crisis; and

Whereas, the AAUP *Statement on the Role of Faculty in Budgetary and Salary Matters* states that "budgetary decisions directly affecting areas for which the faculty has primary responsibility should be made in concert with the faculty"; and

Whereas, the UNC Faculty Assembly "Statement on Budget Planning" states that faculty should be well represented on any campus committee to set priorities or manage a budget reduction process.

Therefore, be it resolved that in planning scenarios for budget cuts for next academic year, Colleges should form Budget Committees; and

Therefore be it further resolved that the College Budget Committees should follow the "Recommendation on Budget Committees at College Level" sent to Interim Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences and Dean of Brody School of Medicine by ECU Chair of Faculty on November 11 2020.

Enclosure "Recommendation on Budget Committees at College Level"

Recommendations for Budget Committees at the College Level

FRAMEWORK

1. The process should be transparent.
2. Think institutionally.
3. Focus on duplication of administrative services for first budget cuts.

COMMITTEE

1. Significant representation from faculty without administrative roles. Use of faculty senators is recommended, since they already have been elected by faculty and represent diverse disciplines, ranks, etc.
2. If no senator is fixed term, 2 fixed term faculty should be appointed.
3. If committee has already been formed it should comprised the membership as outlined above.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Committee should consult the Faculty Senate Guiding Principles (Attachment A) and the UNC Faculty Assembly Guiding Principles (Attachment B).
2. After that they should develop college level guiding principles.
3. The Committee should communicate the College Guiding Principles to all constituencies.

DATA

1. The committee needs to have access to all pertinent data to be able to make thoughtful and informed recommendations.
2. The data should be from at least the last three years in order to help contextualize it.

CHARGE

1. Prepare a timeline for issuing recommendations. The timelines should include ample opportunity for faculty to consult in departmental meetings and offer responses.
2. Plan for 5% and 10% cut scenarios.
3. Review administration and research support within the college.
4. Assess whether administration and research support are redundant or duplicate services.
5. Propose redistribution of resources with cuts.
6. Impacts to research and teaching should be specifically outlined in the final report (i.e. increase in teaching loads, impact on research productivity, etc.).

COMMUNICATION

The Dean/Committee should offer to the college the following:

1. Exact nature of financial challenge.
2. Data for the last 3 years that will allow constituencies to contextualize the challenges.
3. A mechanism to share relevant information with faculty and gather feedback. Web pages to host information and Town Halls to share updates are recommended.
4. Monthly updates.
5. Recommendations need to be presented to faculty before they are final, to offer the possibility of response.