COMMITTEE: University Budget Committee

MEETING DATE: September 25, 2003

PERSON PRESIDING: Henry Ferrell

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: L. Mayne, H. Ferrell, E. Jacobs, J. Kovacs, R. Scott, J. Phipps (for P. Clark)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: A. Harrell (for T. Feldbush), C. Hawkins, C. Christian

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: L. Lee

ACTIONS OF THE MEETING:

The election of committee officers yielded the following results: Henry Ferrell, Chair; Ralph Scott, Vice Chair; duties of Secretary will rotate among other members, beginning with Edward Jacobs; Linda Mayne will serve as the UBC representative of the Academic Programs, IT Policy and Academic Support Committee, a subcommittee of the IRCC.

Henry Ferrell provided a history of the UBC’s activities in its two-year history.

Chuck Hawkins presented information regarding ECU’s state budget allotments: Despite ECU’s increase in enrollment, the state budget has created a 2% cut in ECU’s state funds for the current budget year.

Hawkins explained that the state legislature typically waits until mid-year tax revenue estimates are established before initiating further cuts. Hawkins expects that, in the spring, another 2% cut/reversion will be dictated, for which the university has already set aside $2.5 million. These set-aside funds are taken from a pool of lapsed salaries.

Hawkins requests that the committee work with university finance officials to provide a priority list for handling expected deficits.

Hawkins described the components of the ECU budget (state appropriations, receipts, Medical Faculty Practice Plan, Grants/Contracts, Housing, etc.) and pointed out that our budget is growing, but is not keeping up with the university’s growth in population, services, etc.

Ferrell asked that Hawkins report to the Faculty Senate at their October 7 meeting, in the context of a UBC report.

Discussion followed regarding the process of audits, their function, and corrections that result from these audits.

Brief discussion followed regarding the status of the university's adoption of the SCT Banner system, its cost, and the process of assessing its cost effectiveness: $17.4 million cost over 5 years for thorough implementation of SCT Banner and its inclusion in a broad range of university systems. Banner is expected to bring about the desired broad integration of systems, an increase in efficiency, but it will take time to see its effectiveness: There is certainly a learning curve.

In response to Scott’s question about available reserve funds for emergencies; Hawkins explains that ECU has not received funding for R/R in the past three years.

Phipps (for P. Clark) asked about the relationship between enrollment increases and allocation of funds and faculty lines. Hawkins explained that such allocations are made by the Provost.
Meeting adjourned at 4:55.

**NEXT MEETING:** October 16, 2003