University Budget Committee Minutes

Meeting Date and Time: 21Apr2022 4:00 PM

Meeting Topic(s): Approval of March Meeting Minutes, Update from Ms. Stephanie Coleman, Faculty Senate Update next Tuesday, Next Steps for a Faculty Inclusive Budget Planning Process

Attendees, Members: Dr. Cindy Elmore (Vice-Chair), Steve Garrett (Secretary), Dr. Page Varnell (Chair), Dr. Jennifer McKinnon, Dr. Beth Thompson, Dr. Meghan Millea, Dr. Candace Jenkins

Ex-officio Members: Ms. Stephanie Coleman, Dr. Wendy Sergeant, Dr. Gary Venderpool, Dr. Becky Gardner, Dr. Susan Chapman, Senate Chair Dr. Purificación Martínez, Dr. Marlena Rose, Chandler Ward

Attendees, Guests:

Meeting Purpose(s): Monthly meeting, updates and on-going discussion and planning for 2022-2023 committee work

Objectives/Outcomes:

Agenda Item #1	Approval of minutes from prior meeting		
Options/Points Raised:	Slight edit from Ms. Coleman (FNA corrected to F&A) approved		
Decisions or Recommendations:	Approved by voice vote		
Agenda Item #2	Update by Ms. Stephanie Coleman		
Options/Points Raised:	 Funding model was presented to the Board of Governors and approved as presented. STEM disciplines as well as NURS will have a differential in funding between Undergrad and Graduate (1.5x in Master and 2.5x Doctoral levels); other disciplines will be funded the same with no changes. For Summer school in the transition year, they will fund base for UG resident hours. This will be presented to the state legislature as part of the funding request. The summer tuition rates will be the same whether face-to-face or distance ed. Medical and dental are no longer a part of the funding model. They will request funding through separate process to increase class size. ECU "all funds" budget will be presented to the Board next week for approval. This is the culmination of a major effort to consolidate the various pre-existing budgets into a single, consolidated budget. The submitted budget will include the 2% reduction. Targets / performance metrics are still to be issued. The categories are established and will not change. 		

	Debt performance metric is perceived as a pain point by committee members. This metric is specific to first-time freshmen and new transfers.			
Decisions or Recommendations:	N/A – this was an informational report / update			
Agenda Item #3	Faculty Senate Agenda includes a discussion of the letter sent by the committee regarding the budget process.			
Options/Points Raised:	Committee Chair Dr. Varnell will present the letter. The floor will be open to questions at the conclusion of the presentation.			
Decisions or Recommendations:	N/A			
Agenda Item #4	Budget Process Update / Next Steps to implement a more faculty inclusive budget process			
Options/Points Raised:	 The committee could ask for feedback, suggestions, or ideas from the Faculty Senate at the meeting next week. How can the faculty on the front lines communicate needs related to meeting our mission in a structured process that's consistent across ECU? Given the timing of the school year, it's suggested that we defer this request until the first Senate meeting of the next school year. An option would be to determine a mechanism for collecting input from faculty who are not Senators. This would probably need to be at the College or Department level and would likely differ based on disciplines. This could be a legacy task for the upcoming Budget Committee membership. There was a discussion about taking this from the 'talking about' stage to the 'action' stage next year. One idea was a letter of welcome to new Provost Coger with an offer of committee assistance and requesting input on what the committee can do to be useful. The current process is bottom-up to the Provost via departments/colleges through the Vice-Chancellors. There was a suggestion that each College form a budget support committee to give advice and feedback to the Dean. Dr. Thompson suggested that the current committee draft a letter before the end of the term that the next committee can use to kick-start their efforts. Suggest that the new Provost attend the September meeting of the committee in the Fall. The letter could include a summary of the UBC charge and an offer of support / assistance. Dr. Varnell will create a draft of the letter, which the committee will be able to collectively edit with a goal of having the final version available when Dr. Conger starts as Provost in July. 			

Decisions or Recommendations:	General consensus on the committee is that this faculty inclusive budget process should be a primary task for the 2022-2023 committee. The letter to Dr. Conger will be the first step in converting the discussions and research into action.				
Agenda Item #5	Meeting adjourned at 4:51 PM				
Options/Points Raised:					
Decisions or Recommendations:					
Action Items					
Task to Be Done		Person Responsible	Due Date		
Present Committee letter to the Faculty Senate		Dr. Varnell	At meeting next week		

Freeform Notes