

University Planning and Budget Committee
Meeting of February 26, 2014, 2:00pm
Clocktower Room, Student Center

In attendance: Charlene Casamento, Rae Schipke, Thom Delventhal, Haoyu Wang, Kathy Martin-Troy, Guy Crundwell, Chad Valk, Carlos Liard-Muriente, Carl Lovitt

Meeting called to order at 2:00

1. Motion to approve minutes from last meeting (Kathy, 2nd Rae): Minutes approved with correction.

2. No announcements

3. (Chad): The President's budget report appears to focus mainly on The Victim's Advocate Program. This will be covered through reallocation. Historically, we've not resisted specific jobs when it's covered by reallocation.

(Guy): Is the fringe covered?

(Char): Yes it is.

(Chad): Human Resources: Obviously they've had some hits. I think he's targeting that \$9,000 figure because of someone in his office picking up more work. There will be savings in a re-hire to cover it.

(Guy): So, if it were a UA we wouldn't cover fringe?

(Char): We still pay fringe on UA's. It's different. The rate is around 9% and covers workman's compensation, unemployment and FICA.

(Chad): CFO: One new position, some reapportioning of salary savings from two positions not being filled. New chairs for the staff..

(Char): An ergonomics expert found the current chairs sorely lacking. We are also training the front desk to be better equipped for stressful interactions.

(Haoyu): I love that you will be video-taping the training sessions. That maximizes the expenditure.

(Rae): And I love that you're doing chairs for the whole staff.

(Chad): Institutional Advancement:

(Kathy): I have a problem with the \$200,000 that's not specified.

(Chad): Yes, I have lots of question marks: They're asking for that as a base-budget increase for this year and in future years.

(Char): This is either a base-budget increase, or a one-time. We have to have a website. I think he hopes to get a discount by paying for it up-front.

(Kathy): Yes, but what Chad is saying is if this is a base-budget increase, what's to stop him from asking for it every year if it goes through?

(Char): I agree, it really shouldn't be a one-time that's paid up front, unless there are extraordinary savings from paying it up front. Consistent with accounting principles it could be approved as a one time now and the actual payments and the expenditures would be incurred to match the utilization of the service.

The President may have a decision to make sooner than later. It needs to happen before some other things, but we cannot go without the web.

(Chad): Then what's the other \$200,000 chunk for?

(Kathy): Recruitment.

(Chad): More advertising?

(Carl): Yes. I had \$45,000 in my request that, after talking to Chris Galligan, I took out. He's very serious about creating a media presence.

(Chad): Can we measure that? Are we going to connect the dots?

(Char): It only takes approximately 10 additional residential students to come to CCSU as a result of the marketing for it to pay for itself. I do agree that it would be helpful to have additional details on the proposed expenditures and then track how effective it is.

(Chad): Yes, but my point is, this sort of program shouldn't be one-time. If it's effective it should be continuing.

(Kathy): Last year Chris said that advertising had no pay-off.

(Chad): I'll get more details.

(Char): "Management of scholarship data" is really important. Having a person designated to the strategic coordination of all this data makes a lot of sense. This is an opportunity that may lead to higher enrollments.

(Carl): We've been trying unsuccessfully for two years to get all the scholarship agencies on campus to work in concert.

(Kathy): It's critical. But below the line doesn't make sense. He's cutting \$32,000 in marketing to ask for \$200,000.

(Char): But those are contingency plans--in case we lose more money or have lower enrollments. It may not happen.

(Kathy): you're right.

(Chad): Student affairs: A ten hour UA or part-time AAUP. A lot of these should be capital requests.

(Kathy): We did ask about that: she said that she and Richard had talked about it and that's how they decided to do it. There must be something we don't know.

(Chad): These are not small requests. \$200,000 for an upgrade to the sound system in Bellin?

(Kathy): I don't know if they're good requests, I just think they belong on the facilities report.

(Carlos): The president's message is consistently, "We have fewer students." I don't understand the thinking that would spend all this money on more comforts.

(Chad): When we had millions in one-time, perhaps. But there are certainly more pressing items now.

We will need more time to look at the rest of these. I'm going to send an email for another session on Monday, March third somewhere between 2 and 3:30.

Adjourned at 3:23