

University Planning and Budget Committee  
Meeting of March 6, 2013  
The Clocktower Room, Student Center

In attendance: Haoyu Wang, Charlene Casamento, Thom Delventhal, Otis Mamed, Carl Lovitt, Celeste Roche, Laura Tordenti, Kevin Oliva, Carlos Liard-Muriente, Matthew Bielawa, Guy Crundwell, Kathy Martin-Troy

Meeting called to order at 1:40 (Kevin convening in Kris' absence):

1. Minutes not ready for review. Feb and March minutes will be approved together at March 20, meeting.

2. Budget update:

(Charlene): A week from Thursday (Mar 14), the BOR finance subcommittee will vote on a recommendation re: tuition and fees. The final vote on tuition and fees will take place at the BOR meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>. CCSU's initial submittal was 4.5% for tuition, fees and housing/food. Since our original submittal there have been several scenarios, which resulted in a submittal of 6% and then the final submittal of 5.25% for tuition and 4.5% for housing and fees. It is important to note that the tuition component has been consistent across the 4 universities, versus the fees and housing/food which can vary across each University. There has been discussion regarding a much higher figure. Hopefully when it is announced it will be no higher than the 5.25%.

Our revenue stream includes tuition and fees, as well as the state appropriation. While we have received an estimate as to what the appropriation will be, which is what our tuition and fee numbers are based on, until the budget is passed the first week of June nothing will be final.

There is a potential impact to CCSU as a result of the federal sequestration. As of March 1, 2013, the University has approximately \$5.3M in federal grants active. Utilizing information provided by the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), there are 4 grants on the list of potential grants which could be impacted by sequestration. Charlene agreed to forward to the group additional guidance on sequestration. Laura: I'd like to add that we, in Student Affairs, are watching all this closely. Many of our programs are funded by soft money and could be hugely impacted.

3. Announcements:

Academic Affairs (Carl): We are using Ad Astra software to explore enrollment issues.

Matt: Yes, the software can look at what's *been* offered and what will be. It can determine what a student is missing. It's a powerful tool that can drill deep into the data.

Carl: Also, the chief academic officer of Hartford Public Schools invited us to a Hartford schools forum. It was very uplifting. One third of the people there didn't speak English, so there was a translator and wireless mic's. I had something of an

epiphany there. We've been talking about *Access to Success* etc.--what about more actively courting this population? The number of students considering college is declining, but amongst this demographic it's on the increase. We're going to another forum in March.

A new project is underway: "flipped classrooms:" more content is delivered on-line, and within class there is more one-on-one. We've created a faculty committee to discuss the idea further.

Student Affairs (Laura): Otis, Scott Hazan and I will be presenting our ideas re: café, recreation, tranquility spaces, etc to Facilities Planning soon.

Student Government Association (Celeste): People aren't happy about tuition increases (Brief discussion about upcoming student protests for which there is general support).

#### 4. Interim Retreat Rights

Guy: I've heard there may be changes coming: if a faculty were to take, for example, a Dean position, do they lose the right to move back into the Faculty with tenure?

Carl: As far as I know, there is no change.

Kathy: New hires don't have Retreat Rights.

Carl: And one can't retreat into a position they didn't hold in the first place.

Guy: OK. I've also heard that administrators are now being evaluated on a 3-month basis rather than a one-year.

Carl: Yes, that's true; administrators--new hires—are hired under three month contracts.

Guy: What impact does that have on planning? How are you supposed to accomplish anything? Do you feel that with a little "sunlight," there's anyway that could be reversed?

Carl: There is some talk along that line.

Guy: Is the current BOR examining the policies examined by the former BOR?

Carl: Not that I know of.

Charlene: I'm part of an information system allocation committee that's looking at existing services, their costs and how the costs are being allocated amongst and between the systems. The developing perspective is that costs should be shared among the people being serviced. There may be talk about centralizing services elsewhere, but not part of the information system allocation committee.

Kevin: Speaking of cost distribution, Kris asked that we look at the issue of how adjunct faculty are funded throughout the year.

#### 5. Part time faculty concerns, Course cancellations

(Kevin): There's been so much talk of our alarming deficit, reductions of numbers in the future, summer sessions funding spring and fall, etc.

Carl: To give the conversation some context, adjunct faculty, as an item, has been operating at \$500,000 in the red for several years. This hasn't been an issue because we've always paid that deficit with salary savings. But now the state is sweeping salary savings.

Our primary concern is that students have what they need to graduate. This

is the whole point behind our employment of the *Ad Astra* software. So, yes, adjunct faculty will be reduced in some areas, but increased in others. It's a question of enrollment. We are trying to be thoughtful and creative. For example, can we offer fewer choices and still leave them what they need? Can we put more students in individual sections, etc.?

Final comment about summer numbers—Charlene has been very helpful with this: any session that runs at an enrollment of 6, is losing money. The first action we're taking is raising the minimum to 9. And re: the mixing of summer/winter and fall/spring funding, we hope to take summer completely off the table; the first step to doing that is guaranteeing that every class covers itself.

Charlene: And re: tuition increases pending, these will not impact summer session until a year later.

Carlos: Should the indirect cost rates be different for on-line classes?

Carl: That's a good point. We'll look into that.

Charlene: It's important that we're looking ahead and thinking about all of the issues of cost distribution and not just letting it happen.

#### 6. Other business:

Carlos: Are there any up-dates on the ad hoc committees created to advise the President?

Carl: The President has received 2 reports: CCSU/New Britain co-operative enterprise and STEM. He'll be sending them out soon with the basic message that there's still a lot more discussion required and announcing open forum dates.

Adjournment: 2:45