

University Planning and Budget Committee

Minutes of the Meeting October 20th, 2020 via Webex

Members Present: J. Melnyk, J. Snyder, J. Hodgson, S. Hazan, K. Poirier, B. Barr, S. Cohen, J. Gamache, D. Harris, E. Pana, A.F. Pearson, S. Petras, L. Washko, L. Walter, R. Simmons, C. Casamento, D. Dauwalder, M. Fallon, Y. Kirby

Guest: F. Latour

Chair Melnyk called the meeting to order at 1:46 pm.

Minutes: S. Cohen moved to approve the minutes of the October 6th meeting with the suggested corrections, seconded by J. Snyder. Voted to approve.

Announcements:

Chair J. Melnyk noted he had distributed prior to this meeting the BOR "Resolution concerning Revised FY 2021 Spending Plan for the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities" dated October 15, 2020 and the amendment to that resolution, also dated October 15, 2020, by BOR member Balducci listing specific budget reductions to specific personnel line items across the four state universities.

C. Casamento noted that this is the first time she has seen specific amounts for specific line items provided by the BOR. She stated that a meeting of all the CFOs including BOR CFO Barnes had taken place. Barnes agreed to provide language to the resolution allowing some interpretation and flexibility to the individual university CFOs. However, CCSU must recognize \$2.5 million in reductions in addition to cuts already implemented. One of her concerns involves any commitments already made to graduate students who made a decision to come to CCSU based on that financial promise.

Chair J. Melnyk made a motion, seconded by S. Cohen, to suspend meeting rules and go immediately to the New Business agenda items.

New Business:

Discussion ensued regarding what the budget process could be if there was no new money, only budget reductions. Divisions would have to reallocate money and not ask for any new allotments. Will they know that they need to reduce their requests? What can/should be the UPBC role in the process? Will the ExComm members consider cancelling the whole process?

Regarding the focus of the UPBC, Chair J. Melnyk asked what suggestions members had for helping the university regarding budgeting and planning outside the actual budget process. It was offered that the UPBC continue to pursue any requests for additional /clarifying information.

A question was raised as to why the BOR was planning on spending money to hire a consultant. The response was that the consultant was being hired at the state level, not by the BOR.

Old Business:

F. Latour has asked the Faculty Senate representatives to provide the Workgroup updates.

C. Casamento provided information about expenses related to COVID-19.

It has been proposed that the next committee meeting be held using MS Teams, rather than WebEx. S. Hazan again offered one-on-one help for any members that need help.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm by a motion by J. Melnyk.

The date of the next meeting will be November 10, 2020, rather than November 3, Election Day, held via MS Teams.

Submitted, J Hodgson, Recording Secretary