

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
5241 N. Maple, M/S TA 43  
Fresno, California 93740-8027  
Office of the Academic Senate  
Ext. 8-2743

March 28, 2012

Members Present: J. Constable, P. Newell, J. Parks, A. Parham, D. Nef, R. Sanchez

Members Absent:

Visitors: Provost Covino, J. Cummins

The meeting was called to order by Chair Constable at 3:33 p.m. in Thomas 117.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the Minutes of March 21, 2012.
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the Agenda as distributed.
3. Discussion with Provost Covino regarding President's Welty's address to the University and the budget of the upcoming 2012-2013 Academic year.

Essentially the anticipated budget will include ~\$10.5 M less from the Chancellors Office to the University. It is anticipated that the budget to Academic Affairs will remain unaltered from the 2011-2012 academic year with the reduction in funding being covered by ~\$6.75 M of University reserves and funding reductions to other academic units and ~\$3.75 M of Academic Affairs reserves. The \$3.75 M shortfall will be handled as:

The Provost noted that the net reduction in the number of faculty positions at the University due to the limited University budgets over the last several years has resulted in an overpayment to the University benefits pool. Vice President Matson has chosen to returned overpayment funds to the academic units - Academic Affairs will receive a recurring annual refund of \$1.4 M.

During the 2012-2013 academic year the \$1.4 M will be retained by the Provost and new hires will be approved for the 2013-2014 year. During the 2013-2014 year the searches will commence and the \$1.4 M will be retained by the Provost.

The returned benefit pool of \$2.8 M for 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 plus ~\$0.6 M from Academic Affairs reserve will cover the permanent reduction of funds to Academic Affairs and the recurring return of benefits pool monies for subsequent years will be used to pay salaries (~\$1 M) and returned to the benefits pool (\$0.4 M) to cover the benefits of the new positions.

The Provost also noted that the contribution from his office to salaries of incoming cohort hires represents permanent support for those positions.

4. Discussion of Cal State Online with Dr. O. Benavides.

Dr. Benavides' schedule has changed and Chair Constable will reschedule for the future.

5. Communications and Announcements.

Additional budget information has been received from the Lyles College of Engineering. Chair Constable passed out a summary spreadsheet indicating each School/College preferred budget input parameters.

Chair Constable has invited Lynnette Zelezny, Russel Statham and Scott Moore to the UBC meeting on April 25 to discuss the finances of CGE.

Dennis Nef passed out some additional information on low enrollment courses that identifies low enrollment sections as either elective or required for the program offering the class (Note: classes required by one program, but taught as an elective in another program are not captured by the spreadsheet). A brief discussion ensued noting that evaluation of low enrollment courses requires some knowledge of the course rotation within a major and the number of majors in the program.

6. New Business.

None received.

7. Discussion of the proposed new MA in Deaf Education.

The brief discussion noted that no new materials had been submitted from the program.

MSC to wait until the final materials had been received for discussion.

8. Discussion of an initial new budget model developed by Dennis Nef.

Continuing budget model discussions and the new information received from the Deans regarding their preferred budget model inputs has dovetailed with D. Nef's desire to develop a new budget model. His initial efforts, in which details remain to be clarified, were presented to the committee. The initial draft model contains elements of the existing budget model and new inputs many of which match those requested by the Deans. The proposed model is based around estimating the costs associated with running each School/College and including both incentives to budget wisely and penalties for poor fiscal management. There are some elements

of the model which will require further development including budgeting of equipment and DMD values among others. It was noted that the structure of the model is one that estimates the actual “costs” associated with each School/College mission to educate students. However, the Committee is acutely aware that funding from the State is insufficient to support the “true cost” of University services to the students, therefore some mechanism will be required to index the “true costs” as estimated by the model to the fewer dollars originating from the Chancellor’s Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 pm

Agenda for Wednesday 12 April 2012

1. Approval of minutes of 28 March 2012.
2. Approval of agenda for 12 April 2012.
3. Communications and Announcements.
4. New Business.
5. Discussion of a possible new budget model configuration from Dennis Nef and its incorporations of requests from the Deans regarding budget model inputs.
6. Discussion of the University Budget Committee statement on low enrollment courses.