

Strategic Planning and Budget Study Committee

Minutes of the Meeting of November 11, 2015

Bibb Graves Board Room

The Strategic Planning and Budget Study Committee (SPBS) met on November 11, 2015 in the Bibb Graves Board Room. The following members were present: LTC Wayne Bergeron, Dr. Miranda Bowie, Mr. Clinton Carter, Dr. Dan Hendricks, Dr. Kevin Jacques (Proxy for Dr. Molly Vaughn), Dr. Donna Lefort, Mr. Caleb Lewis, Mr. Mark Linder, Ms. Audrey Mitchell, Dr. Quinn Pearson (Proxy for Dr. Sandra Loew), Mr. David Shields, Dr. John Thornell, Mr. Evan Thornton, and Dr. Brenda Webb (Proxy for Dr. Brian Thompson). Dr. David Brommer, committee chair, presided over the quorum.

Call to Order

Dr. Brommer called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda and the minutes from the October 14th meeting were approved by consensus.

Old Business

New Business

a. FUNDING REQUEST:

Dr. Thornell noted that that Faculty Development gave up funding during the budget cuts and there is now a need to reinstate these funds back to where they were originally with the understanding that there may be cause to give up something else in return. Dr. Lefort added that the request was made for the cuts, however the intent was not a permanent cut. It was considered a one year contribution to the budget shortfall. Mr. Carter responded that a review should be done of the amount and not so much of where it comes from and that the intent was never for this cut to be permanent.

Motion to move forward with the request: Mr. Mark Linder

Motion 2nd: LTC Wayne Bergeron

Motion Carried

b. SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING REVIEW:

Dr. Thornell stated that the meeting did not produce any requests for funding but asked that further review regarding the concerns of Dr. McCullough be completed. Dr. Brommer added that Arts and Sciences now have their own Budget Study Committee. Dr. Brenda Webb commented that the request had been received but there had been no action taken and noted that Dr. McCullough had been present at the meeting. Dr. Thornell made mention that discussion concerning the role of scholarships was held and how to use them to maximize enrollment. The pros and cons of Vanguard Scholarships were addressed, however there were no action items. Mr. Carter stated that there were projections made, however scholarships are awarded and then the number is provided at the end so this is treated somewhat as a fixed cost increase. He asked if there was a need to restructure the awarded amounts or possibly cap the total awarded as this is an unknown expense and a cap may be needed for budgeting purposes. There is a balance. Admissions needs to be able to recruit effectively. Dr. Thornell added that there must be a strategy pertaining to enrollment efforts. This is a delicate balance and can be difficult when recruiting competitively with other universities. After further discussion concerning scholarships and their effect on enrollment, it was suggested by Mr. Carter that some discussions concerning some ideas for moving forward be held, with results brought back to the committee at a later date.

- c. BUDGET REQUEST PROCESS FROM COLLEGES:
Dr. Brommer stated that he had reached out to all of the deans asking for their process when submitting requests. He had heard back from everyone but the College of Business at the time of the meeting. Arts and Sciences has created a committee and they review requests and decide if they should be sent to the dean. Dr. Thornell added that the dean needs to sign off on scholarship requests coming out of his/her college as an indication of support for the request. Brief discussion followed concerning potential new procedures that might be effective.

- d. INFORMATION ITEM:
Concerning unique requests, Dr. Brommer noted that he had met with Dr. Marilyn Lee to see if there might need to be a change in the bylaws concerning unique requests. More information will be forthcoming on this.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.