The committee met two times a month during the fall and spring semester. We began our year with a meeting with President Miller who requested that in addition to our annual budget review that we look at the items in the now defunct transform proposal and that we look at expenditures relative to student numbers over the last ten years. We also were asked to consider the benefit of Friday classes as a means to more efficiently utilize classroom availability and a means to increase the weekend activity on our campus.

In our first few meetings we looked at the potential cost impact of the proposed new general education. As the semester progressed it became clear that the Senate was actively involved in the transform proposal and that the new general education plan was not to become a reality. Our work on these two items ceased. As budget concerns were a major issue we looked at the requirement that student enrollment be increased (and that residential students needed to be encouraged to fill our new dorm) and talked about ways to look at these items. The importance of Friday classes was presented to the Senate in the fall academic semester by Provost Lovitt. The Senate then created an ad hoc committee to study this issue removing it from the UPBC agenda items. As a revenue generating mechanism (and to potentially aid students who leave CCSU without a degree) we looked at a proposal for a Bachelor’s in General Studies that incorporated the “metamajors” that Provost Lovitt introduced at his opening meeting. This proposal went through revision in the committee which approved it and requested that Academic Standards review it. That report is attached and the proposal will be moving to Curriculum Committee this year for review and input. Currently we are the only Connecticut State University that does not offer such a program.

The spring semester was mainly concerned with the University Budget. The proposed budgets of each unit can be found on the UPBC site of the CCSU website. Our response to the President and his response to us is attached to this report. Obviously our ability to maintain this budget is dependent on the state of our enrollment which will be known to all us by the end of September. President Miller has honored two sets of “one-time” fund allocations and the distribution of these funds is on the UPBC website. It should also be noted that the Governor’s rescissions from last year were absorbed without change to the academic allocations. WE suggest that the Senate consider inviting CFO Casamento in to address any concerns that Senators have about budget matters.