

University Planning and Budget Committee Meeting
Minutes for September 16, 2015

In attendance: David Johnson, Alicia Bray, Julia Kara-Soteriou, Meg Leake, Rae Schipke, Joan Nicoll-Senft, Chad Valk, and Charlene Casamento

Meeting was called to order at 2:20. Chad Valk agreed to facilitate the meeting until elections were held.

In the first order of business, Chad Valk was unanimously elected to serve as the Chairperson. Julia Kara-Soteriou was unanimously elected to serve as Vice-Char. It was agreed that Meg Leake would take minutes for the initial meeting, and that a Secretary would be elected at the next meeting.

It was decided that meeting dates for the semester will be at 2pm on the following Wednesdays: October 7, October 21, November 4, November 18, December 2, and December 16.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

The bulk of the meeting was spent in discussions regarding fiscal concerns. Charlene Casamento, CCSU Chief Financial Officer, provided the following overview:

We have reason to be cautiously optimistic for a good fiscal year. Two rounds of one time allocations were granted for the year. The first round of approvals was in the spring during a time of budgetary uncertainty. A second round of allocations was made in the fall, when the fiscal indicators were more promising. (Chad will post the August memo from President Miller on the website which provides details regarding the allocations. Find it under "Additional budget allocations".)

Some factors that contributed to greater confidence in our fiscal situation include:

- ✓ Student enrollment numbers are good.
- ✓ Occupancy in the residence halls is about what was anticipated.
- ✓ There were fewer conversions from the Alternative Retirement Plan (ARP) to the State Employee Retirement System (SERS) than expected.
- ✓ Management Confidential personnel raises are currently delayed/suspended.
- ✓ Refilling of classified positions is on a "soft hold" until the Department of Labor finishes reassignments of their displaced classified personnel.

Committee members discussed the following regarding budgetary issues, following the general overview of the budget:

- ✓ The funding model used to determine BOR allocations to campuses.
- ✓ Historic budget experience at CCSU – last year and prior.
- ✓ Minimum wage increase and the impact on departmental budgets. Adjustments have been made to departments' base budgets for this purpose.
- ✓ Adjunct allocations based on semester.
- ✓ The food service contract awarded to Sodexo. Competition was tight. The committee made the right decision.

OTHER BUSINESS

Members of the committee were reminded that the Bachelor of General Studies proposal reviewed and reported by UPBC last year will be up for a vote in the Faculty Senate during their next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30.

Respectfully submitted by Meg Leake.