



Budget Committee
February 20, 2014
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
1800 Grant Street, Denver Conference Room

Meeting Minutes

Attending: Mike Preston, Bruce Neumann, Rich Lindrooth, Isabella Muturi Sauve, Gary Colbert, Laura Borgelt, Dean Taylor

On the phone: Chris Koziol, Fernando Riosmena, Patrica Heyn

Motion on the Faculty Compensation Pool

The committee agreed on the following next steps regarding the motion:

- Await feedback on the uncompensated merit motion that was presented to the Regents in February 2014. In the ensuing discussion, it was suggested that the motion be presented to administration first, then to the Board of Regents. Chair Neumann will also invite VP Saliman to the March meeting to discuss the feasibility of the motion, as well as the issue of non-parity in the proposed salary increases between faculty and staff.
- Recommend that the funds to support the compensation pool come from the unrestricted net position.

It was also proposed that the committee chair follow up with Geoff Barsch on funding for the intercollegiate athletics program. Specifically, how much of the total funds are coming from the system administration office.

Proposed Salary Increase Parity with Classified Staff

The committee discussed the proposed salary increase, noting that:

- There is no parity in proposed salary increases of 4.5% for classified staff and 3.0% for faculty & exempt professionals. Members discussed whether the committee should recommend an equal compensation pool for faculty, exempt and classified staff? The committee discussed barriers to accessing data that can be used to justify the recommendation and the climate survey undertaken in AY12-13. Chair Neumann noted that he would follow up with chair of the faculty council regarding the survey.

Prioritizing Faculty in the Budget Process

The committee discussed the notion of prioritizing faculty salaries in system and campus budget processes and asked whether the administration should consult faculty before the budget is brought before the regents, including tuition increases. They noted that this role is stipulated in the first charge of the Budget committee, as follows:

Reviewing the budget requests with representatives of the system administration prior to their submission to the Board of Regents and reporting the committee's concurrence or non-concurrence with the budget request to Faculty Council;



Members went on to discuss strategies that will ensure that this charge is followed through, including writing a joint letter to the president and chair of the board of regents and/or meeting with President Benson. The committee agreed that the letter was a better strategy and chair Neumann agreed to write a draft of the letter and circulate to members electronically for approval. The letter will seek to address and reinforce the above charge of the committee.

Elevating the Role of Faculty in Shared Governance Role

The committee discussed strategies to elevate the role of faculty in shared governance so that their input is considered in the budgeting process. Chair Neumann reported that he had sent an email to Regent Neguse inviting him to attend a Budget committee meeting but had not received a reply. He added this was the second year in a row that he had invited a regent to the committee meetings and not received a response.

It was suggested that the faculty and faculty governance committees utilize CU Connections and recommended that a discussion board or blog be developed and linked to the Faculty Council website. Content on the blog will be posted on a monthly basis with each committee contributing an article on a rotating basis. In the ensuing discussion, the committee noted that CU Connections seemed to be a public relations tool for the administration and discussed ways of getting content to the newsletter, including a faculty corner on the newsletter.

Future Agenda Items

The following agenda items were proposed for AY13/14.

- Review of non-instructional administrative costs and whether they are on the rise again.
- Current efforts, strategic plans and funding models for online education. Chair Neumann will invite AVP Keyek-Franssen to address the committee on this issue during the April 2014 meeting.
- International education programs, including funding across campuses.
- Use of surplus funds generated and successful funding models for new programs.

Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm. The next meeting will be on March 20, 2014 in the Denver conference room, 1800 Grant St., Denver, CO 80203.