**Budget Council Minutes**

**November 24, 2015**

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| Terry Leist | John Cowles | Chris Fastnow |
| Chris Kearns | Toni Lee | Nicol Rae |
| Doralyn Rossmann | Joel Schumacher | Mandy St. Aubyn |
|  |  | *Guests:**Kathy Attebury, Megan Bergstedt, Heidi Gagnon, Maureen McCarthy* |

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Terry Leist.

1. Approval of Minutes from prior meetings

 The minutes from April, August and October were approved.

1. **Information/Announcements/Updates**

Budget Model Forums have been held for various groups. There will be a session on December 10 from 1-2 pm in the SUB for nursing directors who will be on campus for other meetings.

Based on input from previous sessions, it is possible that some changes might be made to the proposed model. In the current model, it appears that two critical areas of the funding are the academic and strategic pools. Nic Rae expressed concerns that areas with low student credit hours (SCH) and no undergraduate programs might be disadvantaged in the model. Terry anticipated that deans would have an allocation and the flexibility to allocate within their individual college.

Kathy Attebury inquired who would make the final decisions i.e., how to handle vacancy savings, student credit hours, etc. Terry Leist asked that we get the issues on the table so that we can address and resolve them right away. The model will need to be finalized in the next six weeks to allow adequate time to implement.

Budget Council - The consensus of the group was to hold the December meeting early because of the holidays. Heidi Gagnon will send an invitation to hold the meeting on December 15 in the morning.

1. Current Business

FY13 Strategic Investment Proposal Assessments: Six programs have gone through the assessment phase and are now up for discussion to determine future funding.

At Night Core:

Currently there is no incentive to teach at night. This program would receive funding based on the SCH through the new funding model next year. The Council gave unanimous approval for base funding (Nic Rae recused himself from the vote).

Mathematics and Statistics Classes

Nic Rae felt that this program has done a good job with the funds that were provided. Changes were made to the program to make it more effective. The Council gave unanimous approval for base funding - $105,600 (Nic Rae recused himself from the vote).

Chemistry

There was strong support for this program. The Council gave unanimous approval for base funding (Nic Rae recused himself from the vote).

Base for BIOB 160 & Bridge Funding for BIOB 170 - $57,950

The assessment didn't result in very high scores - is that acceptable? Should it be funded OTO and not base? Discussion followed on the possible options, including OTO for lab coordination - BIOB 170. It was recommended that we circle back to see if this gets funded in the new model with the SCH allocation. The Council gave unanimous approval for one time only (OTO) funding for BIOB 170 (Nic Rae recused himself from the vote).

Spatial Sciences - $26,036

This is for Anne Loi's position - she has two positions (0.75 appt - this is for 1/2 of that - not including the 0.25). The Council gave unanimous approval for base funding.

Convocation - $50,000 base funding (currently only receives OTO funding)

This proposal is to right size the budget due to the popularity of the event. It receives rave reviews and is an institutional event which receives funding from University & other contributors. There was considerable discussion on the future for this and whether OTO or base funding was appropriate. It was felt that this substantial investment seems large. Since it is still a fairly new program, it was recommended to give OTO funding and to get more input from students. The Council would like to see another layer of assessment or feedback so the outcomes are more focused. The Council gave unanimous approval for OTO funding - $50,000.

General Funding Discussions: Questions were raised about tracking the use of funding awarded to programs. If it goes into a department’s base, how do we make sure that the funds are used for the intended purpose? Should there be a control mechanism to ensure that base funding is being used for the intended purpose? Rules and procedures will need to be established to ensure that funds provided are used appropriately. Currently we have no way to track that. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that it would be appropriate to ask deans to confirm each year before budget allocations that they are still investing the funds in the area where it was intended.

The meeting was adjourned.