

Budget Council Minutes
Wednesday, December 10, 2010
11:00 - 12:00 am
108 Plant Bioscience Building

Craig Roloff, Anne Camper, Joseph Fedock, Sue Leigland, Sheron McIlhattan, Dan Moshavi, Adel Nehmeh, Doralyn Rossmann, Wendy Stock, Craig West, Jeanne Wilkinson, Allen Yarnell, Jim Rimpau, David Singel, Kathy Attebury, Jeff Krauss, Jim Luebbers, Terry Leist, Chris Fastnow, Heidi Gagnon

I. Call to Order

Vice President Roloff gave opening remarks to the Budget Council.

We will find a more central location on campus for the January 14, 2011 meeting.

Minutes will be recorded using a LiveScribe pen. The recording will be used to check for accuracy of the proceedings.

II. Amendment and Approval of Amended Minutes of October 26, 2010

Sheron McIlhattan moved to approve the minutes for the October 26, 2010 meeting.

Wendy Stock moved to amend the section of the 10/26 minutes that discussed Auxiliaries funds.

Discussion of Mission, Areas of Responsibility, and Schedule of Meetings

Preliminary wording: "Informational items involving Auxiliaries funds could be brought to the committee for their input."

Amended wording: "One of the committee members asked whether Aux funds were the Purview of this committee. The President replied that that was an interesting question and left it up to the committee to decide whether decisions regarding Auxiliary funds would be a part of our charge."

This motion to amend the minutes was seconded and the amendment passed unanimously.

The motion to approve the minutes for the 10/25 meeting passed unanimously. The amended minutes will be posted on the Budget Council webpage.

III. University Wide Information/Announcements

Vice President for Student Success, Allen Yarnell, shared with the Budget Council a message from President Cruzado. Her intentions were that this council be advisory to the President and not get involved in the minutia of the budgets.

IV. Topics for Discussion

Budget Council Governance

A general discussion followed on what the role of the Council would be. We have the opportunity to propose what we think the role of the Budget Council is to President Cruzado. There was agreement that we should resolve this before we are able to deal with budget matters.

Task Force: Wendy Stock, Doralyn Rossmann, Dan Moshavi, Marvin Lansverk and Craig Roloff were asked to meet with President Cruzado to discuss Budget Council issues. A Task Force was created and will be chaired by Wendy Stock. This task force will likely be short-term.

Working through issues with large groups can take a long time and using a task force or executive committee can help move items quicker. They can help by setting the agendas for meetings and can recommend to the President what the Council looks at and the processes to use. The Task Force has been charged with setting up governance roles and priorities. They will make recommendations to the full Council.

The Task Force will try to propose one or more subset groups that would tackle specific process questions. All Budget Council members will be notified when these meetings are held so that they can choose whether to attend.

The Council discussed possible options for meeting times and frequency of meetings and agreed to hold meetings later in the day to accommodate student members.

Craig Roloff asked that we work on a recommendation for the President regarding how to establish protocol for membership on the committee. We need to settle on terms, alternates, etc.

Areas of Responsibility

- http://www.montana.edu/opa/coms/councils/bcouncil/budget_council.html

The President felt that the Budget Council document created by the Work Group would serve us well but we could work towards clarification by closely aligning Council's calendar with Regents calendar.

There was a general discussion about which funds the Council should be involved in. While it is not clear whether the Council will look at Auxiliaries funds, it was discussed that both Auxiliaries and F&A funds are restricted or designated in their use and aren't managed like state funds.

Budgetary Calendar

There was discussion about using the Board of Regents budget calendar as a starting place for building our own calendar. General consensus was that the Task Force will use the Regents calendar to develop a recommendation to bring to Council at the next meeting to determine what the Council should be involved in.

Craig Roloff noted that the Regents calendar is biennial. After the Legislative session, the Regents practice is to finalize campus allocations and tuition fee rates for two years. They approve budgets on an annual basis, but the decision on what money is in that budget is already made.

Miscellaneous

Wendy Stock suggested the Council discuss the issue of detailed versus superficial minutes. After discussion of this, Wendy suggested that this Council create a hybrid between the two sets of minutes from the last meeting.

Items for Future Meetings

Budget Training was discussed. There was consensus that the training be conducted as a separate session, rather than part of a regular meeting. The Council members will be polled to find a time that works for a 2-3 hour session.

It was desired to find a location more central to campus for the next meeting so that it is more convenient for the Council members.

Martha Potvin, the new Provost for Academic Affairs, will be on campus in her new role by the time of the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2011.