

Minutes - Senate Budget Policies Committee
Friday, March 20, 2020
2:00-4:00 pm via Skype meeting

Members in attendance: Elia Beniash, Tyler Bickford (co-chair), Panos Chrysanthis, Yolanda Covington-Ward, John Mendeloff, Emily Murphy (co-chair), Wesley Rohrer, Adriana Maguiña-Ugarte (SC), Amanda Brodish, Richard Henderson, Thurman Wingrove, Stephen Wisniewski, Chris Bonneau, Donovan Harrell (UTimes).

Absent

Beverly Ann Gaddy, Frank Wilson, Mackey Friedman, Jennifer Lee, Ashima Agarwal (SGB), Yashar Aucie (GPSG), Jennifer Elizabeth Jones (UPPDA), Brian Smith (SC), John J. Baker, Phil Wion, David DeJong, Narahari Sastry.

Call to order shortly after 2:00 pm.

1. Approve February minutes

Minutes were submitted prior to the meeting. Minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Matters arising

Thurman Wingrove: (bad audio on Adriana's side prevented note taking; please submit text if possible)

Chris Bonneau: shared a message sent by the Provost (regarding to all matters faculty tenure; graduates' matters, etc.). Currently, a sense of planning only 2-weeks ahead at a time. Offices will not be available, work will be from home; tight access to campus.

Tyler Bickford asked whether there is a sense that all employees are getting paid and that there are no planned layoffs. Bonneau responded firmly that there is nothing to worry about in that regard; Steve Wisniewski and Thurman Wingrove confirmed Bonneau's statement.

3. UPBC process overview (Steve Wisniewski presenting)

[this presentation was most affected by bad connection in Adriana's remote connection/setup. It will need a thorough review and inclusion of missing parts.]

In preparing the budget, UPBC works primarily with information submitted to them by the Parameters subcommittee, which takes the lead in preparing projections related to enrollment, health care costs, academic initiatives, etc.

CFO is working on an initiative (along with Office of the Provost); Wisniewski considered it to be half-way; when completed, it will be brought to the Chancellor for his consideration. Together, priorities and initiatives will be decided. It will then be returned to the Parameters Subcommittee to be included in their report to UPBC.

One item Wisniewski advanced at the meeting is that this initiative is looking to help those with lowest income.

Wingrove agreed that this is a process that is working well so far.

Wisniewski added that, at one time..... [unfortunately Adriana lost her connection at this point; she reconnected minutes later via phone, but not in time to hear the end of the presentation]

4. Salary increase and appeals policy oversight – follow up

[Due to delay in reconnecting, Adriana thinks she missed the beginning of this conversation as well]

[Someone was saying that:] the salary increase and appeals process is a process that does not include the Office of the Provost, that the deciders are the respective Dean's offices.

Tyler Bickford inquired about the faculty performance evaluation standards. He was under the impression that Laurie Kirsch (Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Development, and Diversity) was to answer this question, but we can postpone it so that it can be addressed.

5. PBC survey results

The survey results were shared in advance via shared Box for review by BPC members. The survey was sent to 305 people, of which 117 (38%) responded. This represents a lower response rate than the previous survey.

Wingrove indicated that they had not seen anything in particular that jumped out to them.

Elia Beniash had a question about question 5, where seemingly 16 people answered that they had not met at all. Upon review by other members, there was an agreement that such answer seemed strange (i.e., no meetings at all).

Panos Chrysanthis shared that he was a member of the SCI's PBC, but that he did not get a survey request, and wondered how many other members were not included in this survey round.

Tyler Bickford commented that it seemed that the Attribution Study is not being disseminated through the PBCs. Is there a way Thurman can check? The reference here is question 9, with the 5th item highest percentage of "no" answers.

Thurman mentioned that this is probably due to the conflicting schedules of PBCs (with a deadline to submit reports by March 1, but UPBC not approving Attribution Studies until later). Steve Wisniewski question the usefulness of PBC's access to Attribution Study.

Wesley Rorher had a final suggestion, for when things return to a more normal business: he would like the committee to have a brief progress report on Titusville.

Adjournment at around 2:52 pm