University Budget Committee (UBC)  
May 9, 2008

Meeting called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Mark Larson.

Mark Larson and Robert Snyder co-chairs

In attendance voting members: Lumei Hui, Michael Thomas, Mary Kay, Saeed Mortazaví, Judith Little, Ann Moore, Colleen Mullery, Amy Moore

Staff to UBC: Carol Terry, Lee Lindsey

President Richmond met with the Committee today to go over the UBC’s response to the President and Vice President’s Proposal for 08/09 Budget reductions and the Recommended Changes to the Budget Review Task Force Report.

Recommended Changes to the Budget Review Task Force Report:

For the most part, President Richmond agreed with most of the changes the UBC recommended with the exception of the make up of the UBC itself. After some discussion, President Richmond suggested a compromise that would be tried for one year. His suggestion was that Carol Terry chair the committee and he would make suggestions to people who could act as facilitators. The facilitators role would be to help with the initial UBC meetings for the next fiscal year 09/10. He and the Chairs would work together to appoint members from the faculty and the rest of the make up would be as described in the Task Force’s recommendation. There will be no Vice Presidents sitting on the Committee.

President Richmond also said that unless there were unforeseen mid-year cuts, the general policy would be that the division leaders determine where to cut in their areas.

The President also expressed concern about respecting contractual obligations when discussing details of cuts, so discussion would need to stay at a higher level.

The discussions were summarized as: VPs will not serve on the UBC; Provost to work with the Academic Senate on UBC appointments; Carol Terry to act as chair; Facilitator to help at the start of next year; Possibility of a campus two-year budget cycle; Work this summer on a proposal for an IR office; and this fall report on budget and expense data, how funds were used, and what data we have on effectiveness.

Response to the President’s and Vice President’s Proposal for 08/09 Budget reductions:

President Richmond agreed with the Committee that the University’s reserve be expanded. He would like to see it doubled. He also stated that it would have been more useful if the Committee recommendations had been available earlier in the year. It was agreed that the Committee would keep more to the timeline that was given earlier in the year. Mark Larson did apologize for not getting the response to the President earlier.
President's handout on reorganizing the University Center:

President Richmond also handed out a breakdown of the University Center restructuring. He stated that we cannot rely on state funding as much, and that the University needs to develop more supplemental sources of resources. The goal is to make the University more profitable and self-sustaining in the future. Certain University Center employees would move to state payroll, and the University Center would reimburse for the payroll expenses. Ann Moore expressed concern about the transition of University Center employees to state payroll with the restructuring, for example, how would seniority be determined? Carol Terry agreed to check on this. Also, there was a discussion of the need for flexibility for the university to acquire property. Now, it can take months to buy property and a seller may not be willing to wait. With the reorganization, the new organization would be in a better position to make a purchase. Property might be purchased for additional student housing or to develop faculty and staff housing. Also, there could be development around the university that would meet student needs, such as providing entertainment activities. The President also said that he would like to see the new enterprise spin off funding for faculty scholarship. The reorganization will create a structure that has been implemented successfully at other campuses. The President is working with the University Center Board and hopes to get this change in place by the Fall.

It was agreed that the new composition of the UBC would go into effect immediately and new members found. Mike Thomas thanked Mark Larson and Robert Snyder for their service and efforts in making the Committee more efficient this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m. by Robert Snyder.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Ladd
ASA II, Financial Affairs