

University Budget Advisory Committee (UBAC)
Meeting Notes
December 6, 2019, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Tahoe Hall Room 1010

Members Present: William Cordeiro (Chair), Tatiana Azad, Sharyn Gardner, Christian Landaverde, Jay Lee, Nick Mahedy, Rose McAuliffe, Elvia Ramirez, LindaKay Soriano

Members Absent: Angel Thayer, Ernest Uwazie

Others Present: President Robert Nelsen, Norman Kwong – Budget, Planning & Administration, Lauren Garrett – Budget, Planning & Administration

Agenda Items: Following past practice, President Nelsen joined the committee for their first meeting of the fiscal/academic year. Introductions were made. Notable changes in membership include the addition of William Cordeiro who is the new UBAC Committee Chair and Dean for the College of Business Administration, and Rose McAuliffe, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning & Administration.

President Nelsen began his presentation with a quote from Martin Luther King, Jr. stating that “a budget is a moral document.” It is very important to honor and respect the budget process and operate with due diligence with our resources. President Nelsen outlined the importance of the committee, noting that last year’s UBAC recommendations were all mostly implemented, with only two items being adjusted. Although the campus has received increases in recent years, campus divisions have not seen proportional increases, as much of the funding has gone to mandatory costs such as compensation (dictated by bargaining unit agreements) and benefit costs. Although the state economy continues to be stable and the state has the rainy day fund, concerns regarding a possible recession continue to linger. Therefore, permanent/baseline increases for the California State University (CSU) may be difficult to obtain, whereas one-time budget allocations may be more likely.

In terms of campus priorities, President Nelsen discussed the historical one-time allocations to Academic Affairs for the past few years, which has contributed to the campus’ recent success in improving graduation rates. Next he touched upon Athletics which has been fiscally over budget, and his desire to resolve the situation. He stated that the Athletics Program owes the UBAC Committee a report from an independent consultant which is forthcoming. Funding to help enforce and support Title IX, as well as improve ADA accommodations, may also be in order. The campus has made some important strides in these areas, but funding will eventually be needed to make continued progress. Improving the percentage of tenure track faculty remains a priority. Lastly, the campus has recently completed an anchor institution plan. The President encouraged committee members to familiarize themselves with its findings.

After President Nelsen outlined his priorities, the committee was free to pose questions. Rose McAuliffe asked about the level of detail historically provided by campus divisions in the annual budget call process. President Nelsen is open to changes and wants more transparency and improved reporting from the divisions. Position budgeting was touched upon. The campus does not practice it currently but there is interest in having it implemented. After replying to the committee's questions/comments, President Nelsen departed at 1:55pm.

Chairman William Cordeiro provided a recap of the President's objectives.

Rose McAuliffe elaborated to the committee regarding possible changes to this year's budget call process. In particular, several years of prior year activity may be included for benchmarking and trending purposes.

Norman Kwong reviewed the various resources available to the committee. Rose McAuliffe discussed formatting changes to the Annual Report on Budget, Expenditures, and Financial Information. She also discussed the CSU's Budget Request (as of December 2019) which is an increase of \$648 million from last year. The increase of \$648 million being requested includes continued funding for the Graduation Initiative, compensation increases, enrollment growth, facilities maintenance and infrastructure, and benefit costs.

The last item on the agenda was the UBAC 101 orientation. This is routinely done during the first or second meeting. The UBAC 101 presentation went over UBAC's role, the budget process timeline, the University Operating Fund, and references to various documents for further review and background for the UBAC Committee members.

The Chair, William Cordeiro, stated the importance of everyone's voice in the room and that he looks forward to chairing the very important UBAC Committee for the 2020/21 Annual Budget of Sacramento State. He then concluded the meeting.

Future Meetings: All meetings are held in Tahoe Hall, Room 1010 unless otherwise noted.

- TBD