

Budget and Planning Council Minutes
September 14, 2009
Library Director's Conference Room
3:30

In attendance: Steve Bolyai, Eileen Gardner, Djanna Hill, David Koistinen, Payton MacDonald, William Matthews, Mukesh Sahni, Pam Theus

Visitor: Esther Martinez

Election of Chairs: The beginning of the meeting saw significant discussion of last year's planning activities, and the interest among many members of the committee of continuing with the same this year. It was decided that two co-chairs would therefore be best. Therefore, there were two co-chairs elected – one co-chair for finance issues (Eileen Gardner) and a second co-chair for long-range planning (Bil Matthews).

Meetings: Future meetings will be held at 3:30 on 10/5, 11/2, 12/7 this semester.

Discussion of Charges:

- Standing Charges were discussed – they are the same as last year.
- Additional Charge #1: Report to the Senate by November 10, 2009 on the impact of cutbacks to department budgets on the teaching and research activities of faculty. It was decided that College budget cutbacks might have more of an effect than Departmental budget cutbacks since Departmental budgets are generally very small. The Council will schedule a meeting with Departmental Chairs to ascertain impact of cutbacks to College and Departmental budgets on teaching and research activities.
- Additional Charge #2: Provide faculty input on plans for allocating the Economic Stimulus funds coming to the University for the current fiscal year. Steve Bolyai informed the Council that the Economic Stimulus money has already been allocated to make up for the decrease in the tuition increase to 3% instead of 5%. This came to 1.9 million, the same amount as the Economic Stimulus money for the university.
- Additional Charges #3 and #4 were not specifically addressed at this meeting.

Report from Steven Bolyai:

- Received FY09 Year End and FY 10 Budget General Operations – Revenues and Expenses Spreadsheets. A projected deficit of over 1.9 million dollars may be partially made up by an expected increase in enrollment.
- Cost of NJ Undergraduate (resident) for FY 09 was compared to other state institutions. WPU is the 5th most expensive out of 8 institutions. College of NJ is highest at \$22,331.00, NJ City University is the lowest at \$17,338.50.

- Information on Institutional Scholarships and Waivers was distributed. The impact of these (often state mandated but unfunded) scholarships on revenue was discussed.
- WPU General Operating Budget (Revenues and Expenses) from FY01 to FY10 was compared. The state appropriation has decreased overall during that period, even though total expenses have increased. This was discussed.
- Steve Bolyai informed us of Stimulus Grants which were obtained, including an energy efficiency HVAC grant. A Photovoltaic Cell Grant was not funded, but the project was continued by an agreement with the company installing the photovoltaic cells, whereby the university will pay the company for the electricity received. The overall commitment of the university to energy efficiency and environmental awareness was discussed, especially in light of increasing this commitment and using this commitment in our marketing and recruitment.

4:45 Call for adjournment