

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Budget Committee

Leanne DeFoor, Chairman, Presiding

November 30, 2017 at 3:30 PM

Ingram Library 2nd Floor Conference Room

Members Present: Leanne DeFoor, Henry Zot, Shelley Elman, Andrea Stanfield, Anne Gaquere, Young Suh, Tim Schroer, Laura Caramanica, Micheal Crafton, Jim Sutherland, Liz Baker.

Non-members present: Kyle Marrero

Members Absent: Scot Lingrell, Dave Fraboni, Tom Gainey, Blynne Olivieri, Thomas Jennings, Matt George.

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM.
2. Approval of Prior Minutes
 - a. Upon motion and second, the motion to approve the October 30, 2017 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes passed unanimously.
3. Old Business
 - a. FY 19 Budget Request
 - i. President Marrero updated the committee on various Budget-related issues.
 - ii. Our petition to grant Alabama residents in-state tuition was approved effective January 1, 2018.
 - iii. Admissions list of higher performers is ready to go.
 - iv. In terms of budget prospects, the request for design funds for the new building for the Richards College of Business appears to be in good shape. The budget overall looks good. However, merit increases do not look that good because of the increased cost of benefits. Tuition increases don't look likely.
 - v. The KSU cheerleader issue is on their minds, and these things can affect the budget.
 - vi. The legislature likely will be efficient in passing a budget so that they can begin fundraising for their upcoming election campaigns.
 - vii. UWG has the 10th lowest fees in the USG. We have 1,000 fully online students. 72% of our students taken an online course at least once per year.
 - viii. UWG will likely be proposing applying fees to fully online classes. There are several proposals for how such a fee structure will look (see handouts). All UWG students will pay a specified institutional fee; two other proposals as outlined on the spreadsheet. This will require approval of the new fee – December 15th is the deadline to get this in.
 - ix. Other institutions are interested in applying a similar model. For example, VSU is taking a \$3.1 million eTuition hit, coupled with an ongoing enrollment decline. The impact of the eTuition phase-out will be widely felt throughout the system with some institutions suffering more than others.
 - x. We are calculating the cost of delivering courses online. The new fees that all students will pay (not just online students) will cover the cost of the online course delivery. Proposal is a 5 credit hour fee trigger. The new fee will be \$45.00 per person, with the purpose being to backfill eTuition. 28% of our students would pay more (those who don't currently take any online classes). The 72% who do take at least one online class per year would save.
 - xi. Considerations from transition from eTuition differential to a fee based approach = HOPE pays tuition but not fees; some companies and the military won't reimburse fees.

- xii. The Committee reviewed the suggested models for the proposed fee structure, and President Marrero discussed each. The three scenarios demonstrate variations on fee structures with slightly different breakeven points and savings.
- xiii. UWG would recover \$1.3 million taking the prorated at 1-12 credit hour approach. This applies lower at each credit hour so everyone benefits. It is the best option politically.
- xiv. Another proposal UWG is considering is a summer incentive. No fees would be charged to students taking up to 6 hours of online courses. In summer terms, students do not get Pell Grants, and this will help with the cost of attendance while providing an opportunity to progress toward a timely graduation.

b. Compression –

- i. Discussion of compression was deferred to the January Committee Meeting because our meeting time was exhausted.

4. New Business -

There was no new business introduced at the meeting.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.