

## Minutes from Faculty Senate Budget and Finance Committee

10-12-2012

- Update on the budget process / how committee will be chosen:
  - Giving names for members of the committee to the president this weekend
  - BOT was enthused about the Budget Advisory Committee
    - Members from the Senate Budget Committee
      - Summerville, Charlow, Rozycki, Blachford
    - Recommendations from the Budget Advisory Committee will be broad budgetary priorities – specifics are assembled from the bottom up.
    - Purpose for bottom-up budgetary process is to empower departments and units to manage how they spend dollars and there will be an expectation of accountability.
    - First meeting in a couple of weeks and will meet weekly.
  - How do Deans get involved in budget process?
    - A couple may be involved in Budget Advisory group but they are more involved in the budget “build” process as they receive information from their departments and programs – they will need to be accountable for making sure units stay within budgetary allocations.
  - Budget process may be complicated by the strategic plan – goal groups, tigs, etc
    - There will be a little disconnect this year between the budget and the priorities established by the goal working groups – will be hard to understand what the real strategic resource needs will be based on the strategic plan
    - Set aside could be used for specific plan priorities – this would occur as part of budgetary process
    - This budget line would be reserved for plan priorities
  - As we start looking at efficiencies, units need to identify places where budget reallocations could be strategic
    - Some centralization of purchasing could enhance service and reduce wasted dollars
    - Lack of controls across campus is a huge issue – lack of centralized control for IT is an example – audit committee is pushing Drake to regularize control over data / make sure data is safeguarded, etc

- How will procedures and policies for operations be determined – (decentralized IT was driven by lack of support from OIT)
  - Debbie will review policies and procedures to try and make them more efficient
    - Per diem is costing us money – maybe this needs to be reviewed
  - We need a new process to vet accounting rules and to ensure that policies achieve the outcomes that we are intending
  - One-size-fits all policies don't address the variability among units
    - Current model of support – even decentralized models – are not working!
  - Some policies have to be in place for some control – for protection of the University
  - Audit and accounting focus can make it harder to think outside the box – so it makes it hard to design procedures that accommodate the diverse needs of the units.
  - *Our policy-creation philosophy needs to focus on facilitating success of the Academy – this needs to be the focus as we revise / create structures that allow us to remain in compliance with the expectation of our auditors.*
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