

Budget Council Meeting
Minutes
January 10, 2014
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Tigert 226

Attendance:

Florin Curta, Sue Alvers, Paul Mueller, Matt Fajack, Meera Sitharam, Deborah Cupples, Henry Frierson
Alex Berkovich, and Laura Sjoberg

Florin Curta called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. and the December minutes were approved.

This month's guest was Henry Frierson, Dean of the Graduate School, distributed documents that had comparisons of tuition and fees for AAU Public Institutions and discussed the cost of graduate education. He explained that UF is pretty much in line with other graduate schools, not including health insurance and fees. We've had an increase of hiring post docs instead of graduate students due to the increase of tuition.

Matt Fajack noted that the university has been raising graduate tuition 15% each year since 2007. This year the increase was only 1.7%. Fees have also increased 5% a year. It was pointed out that one of the issues is that according to state policy, graduate students must carry nine credit hours after finishing a couple years. Graduate students are in the third year and carrying nine credit hours in research. Out of state tuition is more expensive, but students are encouraged to become Florida residents after a year to receive in state tuition. UF has about 12,500 graduate students and about 3000 professional students. PhD applications for admission have increased over the years, but the university is less. Matt mentioned that during the pre-recession the state funding was based on the number of students. Since 2007, the state stopped using enrollment numbers to fund universities.

The council had a long discussion about graduate student funding and faculty hiring post docs instead of graduate students in their labs.

The council adjourned at 4:59 p.m.