

Budget Council Minutes
September 30, 2019
Tigert 1
2:00 p.m.

Present: Keith Schneider, Dennis Kramer, George Kolb, Mei-Fang Lan, Ray G. Thomas, Laurie Bialosky, Meera Sitharam and Ashley Ghiaseddin.

1. Call Meeting to Order - Ray G. Thomas, Faculty Senate Chair

-The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Introduction of Council Members and Liaisons

-Members were introduced.

3. Approve March 15, 2019 Minutes

-The minutes were approved.

4. Election of 2019-2020 Budget Council Chair

-Ashley Ghiaseddin was elected.

5. Overview of Budget Council Mission and Past Activities

-Responsibilities of the Budget Council was reviewed:

This council's area encompasses budget and fiscal matters as they involve the academic mission of the University, including the recommendation of budget priorities involving academics and research, the fiscal implications of the creation, modification or deletion of academic programs, the collection and dissemination of information about University budgeting and planning; and monitoring whether the allocation of resources is consistent with Faculty Senate actions and the University's long term and short term strategic plans.

6. Central Admin Units Update – George Kolb

-Updates to the Financial Transparency Portal was discussed, including the daily enrollment tracking and course management system information. Department major mapping navigation as it is currently listed at <http://fora.aa.ufl.edu/FacultySenate/Councils/Budget-Council> will instead be moved to the top of the page (as opposed to being listed under each year).

-There was an inquiry about if UFOnline is included in the Data applications/ Daily enrollment tracking set of numbers, Dr. Cathy Lebo, Assistant Provost and Director of Institutional Planning and Research, could respond to this inquiry.

-A portal snapshot overview, clarifying budget and expenditures by colleges, by departments, and entities, was provided to council members.

-The distinction between carry forward of state funds vs. cash was discussed.

-Major mapping information is being prepared. Work is underway on the Compass system to complete analytics works and merge all relevant numbers. In reference to the overall college budget, the Compass implementation still needs to be sorted, so while the overall budget is accurate, granular level comparisons are currently being tweaked and sorted.

-The consensus of council is to wait until all Compass tweaks are completed before releasing the annual financial transparency portal notice to faculty via the Provost's Newsletter (which is done each fall.)

7. 2019-20 Agenda/Topic Suggestions/Follow-up's

-Suggested topics include:

-What does the distributional shift between undergraduates, grad 1, & grad 2 (i.e. professional, doctorate, & PhD) mean for enrollment, especially in the broader context of what fields and professions the marketplace can adequately support. True cost models were also discussed.

-Investments affecting future budgets were discussed, including university implementation of sustainable capabilities, such as Garage 14's structural integrity to allow solar panels.

-Discussion of budgetary considerations relative to market-based increases considering inflation, legislative priorities and support. The retention and recruitment of faculty and the importance of faculty raises and merit-based compensation, as well as costs of living considerations were discussed.

-Strategic planning initiatives, including costs and where funds originate.

-Former council chair Meera Sitharam will email the Faculty Senate Secretary information pertaining to establishing a carbon neutral campus to include in the minutes and distribute to council members.

Emailed information included:

-The [American University Presidents Climate Commitment](#) (UF was one of the original 10 signatories in 2005)

-The [performance detail for UF](#), that is tracked by an independent agency called [Second Nature](#). (Note: Selecting items on the left of [this page gives a good description](#) all things being tracked.)

-The [comparison to other universities](#) (Note: this loads slowly due to the large number of universities.

-Divestment discussions:

-The Faculty Senate Chair addressed item #6 @:

<http://fora.aa.ufl.edu/docs//75///20182019//April112019MinutesInfrastructure.pdf>. These proposals were put forward by students and discussed by the Infrastructure Council in the Spring. Budget Council will continue divestment discussions throughout this academic year.

-UF Executive Chief of Staff Win Philips is the primary contact regarding university divestment discussions.

- Evangeline (Evie) Cummings, Assistant Provost and UF Online Director and Dr. Andy McCollough, Associate Provost for Teaching and Technology will be invited to discuss UF Online in October.

8. Adjournment

-The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.