UNIVERSITY BUDGET COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2011 MEETING

I. Time, Location and Attendance:

- 10:00AM, Plaza Room at Administrative Center
- UBC members present: Betty Drees, Lawrence Dreyfus, Gary Ebersole, Provost Gail Hackett (Chair), Carol Hintz, Tony Luppino, Michael Plamann, Kevin Truman and Mel Tyler. Absent: Maureen Hannoun and Lanny Solomon.
- Others present: Chancellor Leo Morton, Sharon Lindenbaum, Karen Wilkerson, and Athletics Director Tim Hall (along with several members of the Intercollegiate Athletics department and consultant Russell Wright).

II. Preliminary Administrative Matters:

- The minutes of the November 17, 2011 meeting of the Committee were approved in the form last circulated prior to the meeting.

III. Report on State/System Developments Re; Budgeting

- There were no significant developments since the last Committee meeting.

IV. Report on Intercollegiate Athletics

- Russell Wright, a consultant to the Intercollegiate Athletics department, circulated and presented observations from a detailed report on the operations and finances of UMKC Intercollegiate Athletics. The report and presentation included, among other things, data on the academic performance of our student-athletes, the staffing and operating budget of our Athletics Department and its current financial condition, and benchmarking information with comparisons to other institutions in the Summit League and in other logical groupings of universities across NCAA divisions, identifying separately those with and without football programs.

- Committee members expressed gratitude for the wealth of useful information in the report and organization and quality of the presentation, and indicated it would be taken into account in UBC deliberations on its resource allocation recommendations to the Chancellor. Some specific questions were asked by Committee members regarding the data presented on student fees and on the potential of UMKC Intercollegiate Athletics to increase its gift revenues.
On the student fees matter, Russell Wright and Tim Hall agreed to provide additional data regarding the overall tuition/student fees circumstances of the institutions whose student fees for athletics were discussed in the report.

On the gift revenues, Tim Hall indicated that a major factor in significantly increasing gifts for Intercollegiate Athletics may be substantial improvement of our facilities for athletics events, including our basketball venue.

V. Presentation Re: SBS/SOM Partnership Discussions

- Deans Dreyfus and Drees made a presentation regarding consideration of a partnership between the School of Biological Sciences and the School of Medicine, which are in a preliminary stage, with much work to be done by a large Steering Committee that includes significant numbers of faculty from each of those units, and by various working groups exploring particular topics. It was reported that the Steering Committee has scheduled a December 22 retreat to review and discuss the information and analysis assembled by the smaller working groups.

- Other significant aspects of the preliminary report on this matter and related Committee discussion included:

  - An overview of the potential benefits of such a partnership with regard to teaching, research and service missions and in the context of UMKC’s strategic planning and life sciences initiatives.

  - Assurance from the two Deans and the Provost that any proposal emanating from the Steering Committee’s work will be presented in draft form for vetting with and the collection of input from all affected constituencies, including, of course, the faculty from both units.

  - Discussion to the effect that a suggestion made by Dean Dreyfus that SBS be allocated the same GRA for FY 2013 as it has been allocated in FY 2012, as well as a similar suggestion for SOM, with an additional consideration of altering the size of the cap on SOM’s marginal increase in GRA from the prior year, would have to be considered in the context of potential effects on all UMKC units. Karen Wilkerson was asked to put together relevant data and preliminary projections to aid the Committee on further deliberations on those suggestions.