UNIVERSITY BUDGET COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2012 MEETING

I. Time, Location and Attendance:

- 10:00AM, Hyde Park Room at Administrative Center

- UBC members present: Gary Ebersole, Provost Gail Hackett (Chair), Maureen Hannoun, Carol Hintz, Michael Plamann, Kevin Truman, Mel Tyler, Lawrence Dreyfus, and Betty Drees. Absent: Tony Luppino and Lanny Solomon.

- Others present: Larry Bunce, Andry Joswara, Sharon Lindenbaum, John Morrissey, and Karen Wilkerson.

II. Preliminary Administrative Matters:

- The minutes of the February 9, 2012 were approved pending additional information on old Cherry Street Hall debt to be provided by Mel Tyler.


- Vice Chancellor Sharon Lindenbaum and Budget Director Karen Wilkerson met with budget managers the morning of February 16th and provided targets for preliminary budget planning. Pushback from fiscal officers centered on unfamiliarity with the format for the 2013 budget exercise.

  o Budget managers were given two separate budget scenarios (one including a 3% salary pool increase and one with salaries remaining flat for 2013) and asked to provide detailed information explaining necessary actions to be taken in order to meet the challenges of each target.

  o Budget managers were advised to consider alternative forms of revenues and revenue enhancements along with expense reductions to meet budgeting challenges.

  o Balanced budgets are a priority.

  o It was requested that each unit submit their plans to meet the budget targets be completed and returned to the campus budget office no later than February 29th.
Carol Hintz stated that it is important that each unit work closely with Human Resources to ensure that policies are adhered to and that units not infringe upon the rights of individual employees. It was recommended that communication between executive management and UMKC employees be emphasized in an effort to preclude any and all rumors regarding the FY 2013 budget process.

IV. University College

• Intent
  o The overall goal of the University College is to improve retention and graduation among undergraduates, especially targeting those who have yet to declare a major. Students in this category are particularly prone to leaving the university before graduating.
  o University College would act as pseudo-academic support unit, and not as an academic unit in direct competition for students and student credit hour generation in the long term. However, future funding for the U-College would be derived in part by SCH and tuition generated by these students. (See the transition plan explanation below.)
  o University College would be empowered to create a University Success Course, focusing on such topics as study skills, motivation, time management, and expectations of the university. This course would be taught through University College using existing UMKC instructors.
  o University College would also be empowered to create a Major Exploration Course / Program to assist students on potential alternatives.

• Staffing
  o A handout illustrated preliminary plans for a five (5) person administrative unit consisting of an Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, two (2) Advisors, with a third advisor specifically trained to handle the issues and challenges of transfer students.
  o Provost Hackett stated that with the current budget situation, it was assumed that the hiring of the transfer advisor would be put on hold.

• Transition Plan and Permanent Funding
  o Provost Hackett stated that with the pending budget challenges, University College would be funded with one-time money in FY 2013.
  o Moving forward, permanent dollars would need to be assigned to the function. This would be accomplished by “flipping” the revenue sharing outlined in the budget model.
    • Currently, undeclared students are assigned to A&S. In the future, these undeclared students would be assigned to the University College.
    • The Provost did not want to negatively impact A&S revenue by assigning these students to a separate unit.
    • Rather than allocate 80% of the revenue to the unit providing instruction, the funding for the U-College would come from
20\% of the SCH and tuition generated by students in the U-College, and the remaining 80\% would stay with the “home unit” which in most cases in the College.

- The revenue generated is designed to cover the costs of the program, and not to generate profit. Therefore, any excess revenue would either be transferred to other units or placed in some type of reserve.

- Other
  - It was determined that further analysis is required to get a better handle on the number of undecided students on campus.
  - Mel Tyler volunteered the services of the Registrar’s Office and other Student Affairs entities.
  - Provost Hackett suggested an annual review of the function of University College to ensure that it is on course to fulfill the desired vision of the University as a whole.
  - The University Budget Committee overwhelmingly supported the establishment of the University College, and applauded the effort to improve retention and graduation rates as well as the proposed creative funding model.