



Faculty Senate Budget Committee

Final

Minutes

Monday, February 15, 2021

11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Via Zoom

Attendees:

Norma Allen	Budget Office
Melody Avila	College of Nursing
Janie Chermak	Economics
Michael Davis	Surgery Urology
Renia Ehrenfeucht	Architecture & Planning
Robert Gary	Anderson School of Management
Sudharman Jayaweera	School of Engineering
Osbjorn Pearson	Anthropology
Melissa Roberts	Pharmacy
Irene Vasquez	Chicana & Chicano Studies: Budget Committee Chair

Excused: N/A

Absent: N/A

Guests: Pamela Pyle Business Council Chair

Minutes: Felisha Martinez Office of the University Secretary

Meeting called to order @ 11:08 AM

Quorum was met.

1. **Review and Approval of Agenda:**

A motion to approve the agenda for February 15, 2021 was made and seconded. The agenda was approved by unanimous decision.

2. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the January 25, 2021 meeting minutes was made and seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous decision.

3. **BLT Update**

Norma Allen

Ms. Allen reported on the BLT meetings she has attended since the December 2020. She reported on the FY22 budget recommendations. The BLT subcommittee, the Tuition and Fee Committee, proposed a 2.2% percent increase to tuition for residents and a 5% increase for non-residents, which includes the premiums and differential tuition. This increase applies to both graduate and undergraduate tuition rates. The Student Fee



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Review Board (SFRB) does not want an increase to mandatory student fees; therefore an increase was not recommended. Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) has proposed to have a separate headcount model for their unit. Their fee would be \$107 for the semester, fall and spring semesters, and \$60 for the summer semester. Athletics would also like to have a similar fee model, separate from SFRB. It was proposed to have \$100 a semester increase, Fall and Spring, bringing their total to \$267 a semester. A committee member expressed concern about SFRB being removed for Athletics as it could be a way of getting an increased and unchecked budget. Dr. Vasquez asked if there was another budget request from Athletics, as she thought much more was requested initially. Per the President's report, Professor Pyle said the budget request from Athletics is \$2.8 million, \$2.1 million, and \$2.1 million over the next 3 years. Ms. Allen specified the numbers she was reporting on is recurring budgets and does not include non-recurring budget requests.

Ms. Allen went on to report the budget presented by the Provost. There is a proposed funding request for Academic Affairs of \$3.4 million, along with a request from the Senior Vice President of Finance for an additional \$1.1 million. The President's funding request has also been proposed, including Athletics and UCAM, with a total of \$500K-\$600K. In January 2021, the President's Office presented a recurring budget request of \$227K. An additional request was made with \$228K for UCAM and \$375K for Athletics with a total of \$800K for all the President's units. Ms. Allen said she is not sure what the request was for non-recurring budgets.

Dr. Vasquez asked about the planning process for budgets. Ms. Allen said planning starts in the Fall with SFRB hearings, however the budget does not take shape until the Spring when the State appropriations presentation is made.

The committee discussed issues with how the Athletics facilities are being used. Ms. Allen said The Pit has money that needs to be paid back to bond holders. Professor Pyle reported boxes were created with the idea The Pit could charge \$40K for each box to pay for the construction of the redesign. It was suggested The Pit could use their facilities for other things such as concerts. The problem in the past with audio was that the equipment would be too heavy, and the roof could not have supported it. The Pit decided to save money on the construction and did not install a more substantial structure thinking it would not be needed. It was suggested an upgrade could be made at little to no cost in the hope that more money could be made for use of the facilities. Ms. Allen said this was suggested in the past, however there had been some logistical issues. Dr. Vasquez asked if there could be a review of the Athletics budget over the last 5 years to look at the budget trends. Ms. Allen said she did not have this information; however, the committee did go on to review the SFRB funding trends.

SFRB Funding Trends

- FY13- \$3.1 million
- FY14-\$4 million
- FY15-\$4 million
- FY16- \$3.9 million
- FY17- \$3.9 million



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- FY18- 3.8 million
- FY19- 3.6 million
- FY20- 3.5 million
- FY21- 2.7 million
- FY22- 3.4 million

Cuts were made for FY21 as the University thought there would be a 10% decrease, however there was a 4% decrease and the University was able to give money back to the units.

Professor Pyle expressed concern regarding the budget priorities. She said she is working with other chairs in the Business Council and communicating with Faculty Senate President Coleman. A letter is being drafted to send to the President. Professor Pyle said she would like some feedback from the committee. The committee provided the following language to be included in the letter:

“We are concerned with the requested increases to athletics (from various sources) in order to cover budget shortfalls - especially in a time of a pandemic when all units are suffering. We are also concerned that this is an annual occurrence with no long-term resolution of the athletics budgetary problems”.

The language was put to a vote by the committee. It was approved by unanimous decision and will be sent to Professor Pyle for inclusion in the letter to the President.

Professor Pyle also reported to the committee that Barbara Damron said there are junior appropriations money available and units can apply for additional funding. A letter was sent out to the Deans regarding this. There is a funding minimum of \$50K and a maximum of \$250K-\$300K for non-recurring spending. The funding is for existing programs that need additional funding.

4. Committee Priorities

Irene Vasquez

Dr. Vasquez reported on the goals of the committee and the work that was done this last year.

- Being proactive about understanding the state of UNM’s budget.
- Advocate for greater faculty input in the UNM budget process.
- Understand NM legislative process and its relations to the budget.
- Share ideas about budget development and enrollment growth.

August 2020

The committee developed budget principles that were shared with BLT. The committee requested that the Provost Office allow for two members be added to BLT for greater faculty representation. It was requested that Academic Affairs communicate with faculty, in addition to the Deans, regarding the budget planning process and associated reductions and reallocations.



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September 2020

The committee invited Norma Allen to provide BLT report.

October 2020

The committee created questions for enrollment management to respond to expansion opportunities, restricting and simplifying tuition and fee rates and creating a final report with recommendations.

November 2020

Cancelled meeting.

December 2020

The committee invited Barbara Damron to provide an update on the upcoming legislative session.

January 2021

The committee decided to invite Provost Holloway to discuss enrollment management.

Professor Pyle is working towards having increased collaboration between the committees within the Business Council. She recommended that the Budget Committee and Faculty and Staff Benefits Committee collaborate. This would be something to work on for the upcoming meeting or at least before end of Spring 2021.

5. **Next Meeting**
Monday, March 15, 2021
6. **Adjourned:** 11:55 PM