



## Faculty Senate Budget Committee

**Final**

### Minutes

Monday, March 22, 2021

11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Via Zoom

### *Attendees:*

Norma Allen	Budget Office
Melody Avila	College of Nursing
Renia Ehrenfeucht	Architecture & Planning
Robert Gary	Anderson School of Management
Sudharman Jayaweera	School of Engineering
Osbjorn Pearson	Anthropology
Irene Vasquez	Chicana & Chicano Studies: Budget Committee Chair

### *Excused:*

Janie Chermak	Economics
---------------	-----------

### *Absent:*

Michael Davis	Surgery Urology
Melissa Roberts	Pharmacy

### *Guests:*

Finnie Coleman	Faculty Senate President
----------------	--------------------------

### *Minutes:*

Felisha Martinez	Office of the University Secretary
------------------	------------------------------------

**Meeting called to order @ 11:03 AM**

**Quorum was not met.**

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

Quorum was not met therefore the committee could not pass a motion to approve the agenda for March 22, 2021.

2. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Meeting minutes for February 15, 2021 and March 22, 2021 will be on the agenda for April 19, 2021 since quorum was not met.

3. **BLT Update**

*Norma Allen*

Ms. Allen stated the last Budget Leadership Team (BLT) meeting took place on March 11<sup>th</sup>. There was an approval of the preliminary budget recommendation of an increase of \$5.9 million, which included the following:

- Increase in Instruction and General (I&G) funding
- 1.5% increase for compensation
- 2.2% increase in tuition for resident undergraduate and graduate students
- 5% increase for non-resident undergraduate and graduate students



## Faculty Senate Budget Committee

- 0% increase in mandatory student fee
- New Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) and Athletics fees

There are several funding requests that were approved for a total of \$4.9 million which includes Academic Affairs, administration, safety, health, and infrastructure. Auxiliary units have been struggling over the years and especially in recent months due to COVID. They utilize HR, financial services, IT, etc. Contributions for those services has not dropped, and it was approved to have contributions decrease by \$2 million (\$4.8 million to \$2.1 million). This will provide relief to auxiliary units and allow them to invest into their infrastructure. There were several must fund initiatives approved that include the Educational Retirement Board (ERB) increase for employer contribution. This contribution is 1% over the next two years. There will not be any cuts to units, however there are concerns regarding the 3% cut to Research and Public Service Projects (RPSP). There was an adjustment to dissertation students paying SHAC fees. They currently do not pay the mandatory student fee; however, they will be going forward. On March 25<sup>th</sup> the BLT will vote for the full recommendation and on April 1<sup>st</sup> it will be presented to the President. Finance and Facilities Committee will present to the Regents on April 6<sup>th</sup> with a full vote by the Regents on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The Governor signs off on the budget on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### 4. Faculty Senate President Address

*Dr. Finnie Coleman*

Dr. Coleman held a discussion with the committee regarding faculty representation with budget leadership and setting legislative priorities. The participation with the BLT is a step towards this. Dr. Coleman has spoken to Provost Holloway about adding a third faculty member to the BLT. A current list of representatives was shared with the group for review. It was shown there are a total of four faculty on the BLT. However, it was discussed having a broader representation of other colleges/schools as current members are from Arts and Sciences. Dr. Vazquez stated participation in BLT is not the issue, it is the involvement with setting goals and priorities. Dr. Coleman said at this time the committee is in an advisory role rather than a consulting role. The goal is to have the committee involved in the budget decision-making process. Dr. Vasquez stated it would be good to explore how faculty are involved in the current process to determine what needs to change. Dr. Coleman stated the faculty should be more informed of when setting proposals is appropriate and they have a say in how the budget is set. A committee member suggested bringing this to the senate for discussion and asked when proposals are submitted. Ms. Allen stated proposals for new money RPSP's are requested in the summer for review and approval for proposals occurs in the fall. Funding requests for I&G money are made in the fall. The Dean's offices are responsible for gathering information to present in January to the BLT. The funding process for each is different and goes through separate steps. It is best to talk with the Provost and the EVP for finance if the Faculty Senate is making separate requests for faculty. It is also best to talk to Government Relations and the Provost regarding deficiencies and where they are. Currently the report for budget requests does not have a college-by-college breakdown. The committee agreed to continue this discussion at the next Budget Committee meeting.



## Faculty Senate Budget Committee

5. Next Meeting  
Monday, April 19, 2021
  
6. Adjourned: 11:47 PM