

The University of Rhode Island
Strategic Budget & Planning Council
June 27, 2011
9:00am-1:00 pm
Galanti Lounge, Carothers Library

Members/Staff in Attendance:

Chair Don DeHayes, Robert Weygand, Abu Bakr, Robert Beagle, Thorr Bjorn, Faye Boudreau-Bartels, Winnie Brownell, Patricia Casey, Tom Dougan, Nancy Eaton, Cheryl Foster, Jeff Johnson, Ron Jordan, Glen Kerkian, Ken Kermes, Trish Morokoff, Ray Wright, Linda Barrett

Members Absent:

Steve D'Hondt, Ann Morrissey, Peter Alfonso, David Coates, Jack Szcepanski

See the complete list of member information at the Strategic Budget and Planning Council website at <http://www.uri.edu/budget/sbpc/Membership%201-11.pdf>

Presentation:

FY13 Divisional Budget Requests: Athletics, Administration & Finance, Student Affairs

Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting called to order @ 9:00am by Chair DeHayes.
2. Chair DeHayes spoke about the enrollment growth of quality students in FY12 and the need to ensure that there is the appropriate faculty and staff to serve the students. He mentioned the net gain in faculty hires that should not be undone and the fact that the FY11 mid year budget unfunded nine (9) faculty lines. The Chair noted that the President is considering utilizing a portion of the estimated FY12 reserve for the restoration of faculty lines unfunded in FY11.
3. Discussion of President's request related to Community, Equity and Diversity.
 - a. Position title of Vice President discussed.
 - I. Sensitive to Board of Governor's review
 - II. Search committee in process of being established
 - III. Kathryn has been extended
 - IV. Equity Council had proposed VP title
 - b. Not yet decided if Community, Equity, Diversity will be a separate division or a "division" within the President's area.
 - c. The additional funding request would provide the necessary funds to do the work related to Community, Equity and Diversity.
 - d. It was noted that the process for requesting new funding was completed prior to the FY12 Budget Request submission; however, the President recognized when he came forward with the request for Community, Equity, Diversity it was something we had never done before. In fact, the Council encouraged him to return in future years with requests that would be useful in aiding the Chief Diversity Officer in achieving the goals set forth. It was also noted that during his presentation to the Council on June 25, 2010, the President said he would like diversity to be the defining characteristic of the University of Rhode Island. Since that time, he has had the benefit of input from Kathryn Friedman and he would like to move quicker than originally envisioned. Students also

raised the awareness and the university received regional and national exposure as a result of the students' actions.

- e. The Chair mentioned that the most important piece is sincerity of the goal.
 - f. The Council unanimously recommended that the President's request be included in the FY12 budget.
4. Presentations for FY13 and FY14 by Athletics, Administration and Finance and Student Affairs will be posted to the SBPC website.
- a. FY13 and FY14 budget presentation made by Thorr Bjorn, Director of Athletics. New funding was not requested; vision and future projects and initiatives were included in presentation. In response to a question, he mentioned that perhaps Athletic facilities could be used for outdoor concerts and he could work with the Ryan Center on these kinds of events. Thor also noted that the Strength Coach (part of last year's request) continues to be funded from booster funds.
 - b. FY13 budget presentation made by Robert A. Weygand, Vice President, Division of Administration and Finance. The request totaled \$1,236,000 and consisted of eight (8) items. Bob mentioned his presentation was similar to last year and he had shifted priorities based on the last twelve months. Last year, he asked for a Bio Safety Officer and he has worked with Peter Alfonso to address this function. The first and second request was for a Whistleblower Hotline which included a Senior Auditor. Concern of how this would work and if it would impact the current University Manual rules that address such things as a student grading issue. A graduate student would be hired to educate the community. A third item was for new building expenses. The fourth item was \$200K for Roosevelt Hall, which impacted FY14 and FY15 for \$700K and \$800K. The fifth item was for a HR Specialist related to work life issues. Clarification of the duties of the HR Specialist was requested. Bob indicated that it was a blend of responsibilities of the work life committee and the issue of processing of visas and background checks... It was a combination of a lot of things. It was noted that e-verify is currently used for federal grant hires. The sixth item was \$20K for professional development. The seventh item was for a Peoplesoft billing/receivable module and the last item was for an electronic payroll system.
 - c. Bob presented FY12 requests that impact FY12, 13 and 14. The total for FY12 and FY13 were shown as \$2.8M and \$1.3M respectively. In response to a question, Bob indicated that he anticipated fund balance would be approved for funding of capital requests. The Chair mentioned that the capital items were for information and that such requests were currently before the President. The Vice Chair mentioned that the annual repair needs are \$11M-\$14M and that deferred maintenance is \$425M.
 - d. Bob mentioned that he will present RICAP and CIP updates to the Council before the end of the summer. It was requested that the presentation also include the Master Plan.
 - e. FY13 budget presentation made by Thomas Dougan, Vice President, Division of Student Affairs. The request totaled \$1,166,000 and related to staffing and equipment for the Roger Williams Fitness Center. Tom mentioned that a new fee would be requested to fund the Roger Williams Fitness Center and the current Recreational Services which are currently funded from tuition revenues. Tom noted that this would make \$950K available from tuition revenues. The fee would vary depending upon the level of funding it would support. Building opening date was not firm; November 12, 2012 and January 2012 were both mentioned as possible opening dates. Student Senate doing a referendum on the fee in the fall. Tom expects that the students will also attend the

Board of Governors meeting and voice support for the new fee. Equipment costs of \$800K are required and Tom indicated his commitment to using unspent building funds to pay for the equipment. He mentioned \$250K in private donations and has asked the Student Senate for \$150K to \$300K. The current tuition revenues support mostly salaries and fringe benefits; new fee would also support these kinds of expenses. If fee established to support salaries and fringe benefits, concern that it would not be sustainable. A request was also made for funding for Career Services.

5. Chair mentioned that when we look at new building projects, we look at renovation or construction costs; but, there is a need to build in the cost of ongoing building and operating expenses. It was mentioned that the CIP reflects the new annual costs.
6. Must think strategically about tuition and fees. Fee revenue is specifically dedicated. New Board of Governors' will most likely not entertain any increase beyond the CPI for the combined tuition and fees increase. It was mentioned that students will support a particular fee because it isolates the funds. Also mentioned that the fee would fund mostly salaries and related fringe benefits and as such, it would not be sustainable as the fee may have to be raised significantly in future years. It also restricts allocation and reallocation of funds. Important to consider every aspect of rolling fees into tuition vs. establishing new fees. The national measurement takes into consideration tuition and mandatory fees.
7. Meeting adjourned at 1:37 pm

Next Meeting Date:

TBD

Required Action:

Vice Chair Weygand to facilitate scheduling a meeting prior to the end of summer for presentation on capital funds.

Minutes by: Linda Barrett, Director, Budget & Financial Planning