

The University of Rhode Island
Strategic Budget & Planning Council
May 18, 2011
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Thomson Boardroom, Ballentine Hall

Members/Staff in Attendance

Chair DeHayes, Vice Chair Robert Weygand, Peter Alfonso, Abu Bakr, Faye Boudreaux-Bartels, Winnie Brownell, Tom Dougan, Nancy Eaton, Jeff Johnson, Ken Kermes, Linda Barrett, Ann Morrissey, Trish Morokoff

Members Absent:

Bob Beagle, Thorr Bjorn, David Coates, Steve D'Hondt, Cheryl Foster, Ron Jordan, Glen Kerkian, Jack Szczepanski, Ray Wright, Patricia Casey

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:

FY2012 Tentative Budget Allocation presented by Linda Barrett

Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting called to order @ 2:14 pm by Chair DeHayes.
2. The next SBPC meeting will be held June 13th, 2011 from 1-2:30 pm. Location to be determined. President Dooley will attend.
3. The minutes for the March 18th, 2011 meeting are still under review
4. The minutes for the April 8th, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.
5. Chair DeHayes thanked the council for their patience and hard work in this challenging budget process. With the approved T&F increase, it is hoped that the council will have to make little or no reductions.
6. Chair DeHayes mentioned that there will be meetings throughout the summer.
7. Linda Barrett gave a presentation to the council on the FY12 Tentative Budget Allocation.
Highlights:
 - a. The FY12 State Appropriation request reflected an increase of \$14.6M. The Governor has recommended an increase of \$3.1M.
 - b. Diversity is up 7%
 - c. May 26th – FY12 Tentative Allocation budget packets will be distributed deans & directors
 - d. The tuition revenue belongs to the entire university, not just one division. It pays for all expense across the campus, like safety, lands & grounds... etc.
8. URI is beginning to attract more students who believe science and engineering are what they prefer. These courses have a higher delivery cost as compared to humanities, etc.
 - a. Restoring TAs that have been cut through the years would be something to consider. The intellectual infrastructure has been chipped away at due to budget cuts.
9. Investment in Student Aid – analysis requested. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
10. The Entrepreneurial Committee is chaired by Vice President Weygand. He presented their recommendations:

- a. Faculty Parking - would create \$490K to general fund annually
 - b. OTO sell unusable land - URI would need to develop more precedent for this
 - c. Generate money/donations from reunion and class giving for unrestricted gifts. Transfer responsibility to URIF. Reunions would become a fundraising activity, not a social activity. Create a culture of giving.
 - d. Generate funding through more partnerships with business through intellectual property. Seminars, training, athletics & summer camps. Service type activities do not usually generate revenue. Leverage intellectual property
 - e. Upper College Road development and Kingston Village are pivotal to retention.
 - f. Summer camps/athletic camps. Niche academic programs - Coastal Program, Summer Writing Program, Arts Programs. This could be explored. Need to generate a net revenue for these programs otherwise just spinning in the mud
 - g. Portal issue - one portal for internships, etc? Or 2 as suggested by sub committee
11. The Budget Reduction Subcommittee chaired by Provost DeHayes would like to create a contingency/reinvestment fund off the top. 0.5% revenue from the tuition increase. If increase is \$10M, would be 10% of that. 0.5% of annual rev of 101s; 0.5% of revenue of Aux Ent Shep; 0.5% of annual rev dedicated to SPA.; This would = \$2M for reinvestment/contingency fund
- a. The reinvestment \$ would be for significant new initiatives
 - b. Colleges, depts. would have a 1-5 year bridging model to pay back this fund if \$ is used,
 - c. Proposals for \$\$ would be vetted by SBPC
 - d. Capital Projects - if we tapped into general funds to pay for things (ie Ruggles) then \$ is being taken from everyone.
 - e. Issue of contingency fund - we need a mechanism to bridge to the future and confirm payback & replenish the fund.
 - f. Example - If Tom wants \$800K OTO for his new gym, he wouldn't have to pay that back as it bridges to the future.
 - g. Everyone has to make cuts in a given year during a strained budget environment
 - h. There was discussion about SPA accounts.
 - i. If an area needed to be exempt, that will be addressed.
 - j. Can we consider a more equitable & transparent way to look for the \$2M? Example - Trail slide in presentation - why can't this \$ be there for the next year. Take \$ before it gets into people's budgets therefore not having to "take" it from a dept's pockets and make that the reinvestment fund. Every year we have an increase in expenses. This is the first time in a long time we had \$1.6M projected to be available.
 - k. Non strategic cuts have been made in the past.
 - l. Can we use this reinvestment \$ to create a venture capital fund for entrepreneurial goals (conference center, Main Street, etc.) These are things we have not done in the past. New ideas to get revenue = part of the charge.
 - m. Significant new initiatives that this fund might support, we should include in the process the revenue generating capacity of areas such as a public partnership.
12. Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm

Next Meeting Date:

June 13th from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm. Alumni Boardroom

Minutes by: Caroline Natale, Business Analyst, Budget & Financial Planning 5/18/11