

Minutes of February 12, 2007 Meeting

The meeting convened at 2:02 p.m. in room 817, Cathedral of Learning.

UPBC members present were: John Baker, Diana Browning, Stephen Carr, Jerome Cochran, Richard Colwell, David DeJong, Catherine Greeno, Carol Hodgkiss, Patricia Kroboth, Ronald Larsen, James Maher, Angela Peskie, Arthur Ramicone, Richard Ulsh, and Kathleen Vergona. Also present were: Jeffrey Liebmann, Jeffrey Masnick, Albert Novak, Robert Pack, and Paul Supowitz.

UPBC members not present were: Livingston Alexander, N. John Cooper, Arthur Levine, Maureen McClure, Joseph Pasqualichio, Darius Ravangard, Robert Ries, Michael Stuckart, Stephen Wisniewski, and Thomas Wolf.

Discussion of the FY 2008 Commonwealth Appropriation Request

Supowitz presented a summary of the University's FY 2008 Commonwealth appropriation request, submitted last fall. The request included an 8.5% increase in funding over FY 2007. Connected to this requested increase was the assumption that the University would not have to increase tuition any more than 4.0% and would be able to provide a 4.0% increase to salary funding.

Discussion of the Governor's Proposed FY 2007 Commonwealth Budget

Supowitz summarized the Governor's proposed budget for the Commonwealth for FY 2008, which includes a 2.0% increase in the Educational and General budget of the state-related universities. All other budget lines contain no increase, with the understanding that the four medical line items (School of Medicine, Dental Clinic, WPIC, and the Center for Public Health Practice) will continue to be included in the Public Welfare budget to take advantage of federal Medicaid matching funds.

He added that many new legislators were recently elected on platforms of fiscal conservatism. Combined with the state emphasis on transportation and public welfare may lead to FY 2008 being a difficult budget year. The Governor is committed to rightsizing the transportation system and ensuring dedicated funding streams.

Matters Arising

Maher provided an update on Commonwealth efforts to examine the articulation of community college courses. The University is a full and active member of a group assembling a statewide database of courses that can be transferred. The University is also a nonvoting member of a committee exploring a common core curriculum that will apply to colleges and universities in Pennsylvania, with the exception of the state-related universities.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.