

### **Minutes of November 15, 2011 Meeting**

The meeting (convened to orient new members) convened at 2:00 P.M. in room 817, Cathedral of Learning.

New UPBC members present were: Thomas Braun, Anthony Cray, Kathleen Kelly, Estela Llinas, Jon-Paul Matychak, and Susan Patton.

Continuing UPBC members present were: Patricia Beeson, Michael Lotze, Michael Pinsky, and Jerry Samples.

Also present was: Amanda Brodish

New UPBC members not present were: Monica Costlow, Irene Frieze, and Deborah Walker.

Continuing UPBC members not present were: John Baker, Stephen Carr, Shirley Cassing, Jerome Cochrane, John Cooper, Mary Crossley, William Harbert, Arthur Levine, Arthur Ramicone, William Shields, Jesse Steinberg, and Molly Stieber

#### **Introductions**

Present UPBC members introduced themselves. Provost Beeson thanked committee members in advance for their service and highlighted the challenging financial times in which University budget decisions are made, including: reduced funding from the Commonwealth, tight budgets of students and their families, and the fluctuating endowment profile.

#### **Report of the Chair**

Provost Beeson presented an overview of the University's Budget and Planning System, which began in 1995. The presentation began with background on the creation of the system, and an overview of measurable improvements in academic quality and performance that have been realized following its creation. She discussed the structure of the system, along with a description of the major sources of revenue and expenditures of the University budget. Budgeting challenges were discussed, including: salary gaps for professors in public versus private universities; low levels (relative to public peers) of funding from the Commonwealth, and corresponding high dependence on tuition as a source of revenue; declining (real) federal funding for research; the steady decline in the number of high school graduates in the Commonwealth; and the possibility of legislation allowing the money to follow the student in PA higher education. The presentation concluded with a sketch of the timeline followed for establishing the budget. Provost Beeson noted that the FY 2013 Commonwealth Appropriation Request has been made based on full restoration of Commonwealth support over a period of several years.

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 P.M.