

Minutes of March 27th 2017 Meeting

The meeting convened at 3:03 p.m. in room 817 Cathedral of Learning.

UPBC members present were: Livingston Alexander, Keith Caldwell, Richard Colwell, Natalie Dall, Jerry Holder, Kathleen Kelly, Monika Losagio, Salim Malakouti, Dean Nelson, Arthur Ramicone, Andrew Rose, Frank Wilson, and Chad Zutter.

Also present were: Cassie Brenner, Amanda Brodish, Tom Crawford, David DeJong, Rich Henderson, Paul Supowitz, Kathy Tosh, and Thurman Wingrove.

UPBC members not present were: Patricia Beeson, Larry Carr, Beverly Gaddy, Tony Gaskew, Pat Kroboth, Catherine Lamberton, Doug Landsittel, Ron Larsen, Kathleen Musante, Arthur Levine, Gregory Scott, and Alex Toner.

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There was a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13th 2017 meeting. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Report of the Chair

Art Ramicone served as chair on behalf of Provost Beeson, and dispensed with the report.

Parameters Subcommittee Update

In Dean Larsen's absence, Dean Holder provided an update of the activities of the Parameters subcommittee. Holder noted that in the subcommittee's first meeting, the committee reviewed budget line items requiring funding for the coming year, along with key budget parameters available as funding sources. He then shared highlights with the committee, including funding implications of changes in tuition and compensation.

Update on the FY 2018 Commonwealth Appropriation

Paul Supowitz noted that Pitt Day in Harrisburg was March 21 and there was great attendance by students, faculty, staff, and alumni. He indicated that the disposition toward higher education within the legislature is positive. However, between the existing structural deficit and revenue collections lagging behind projections, the PA state budget is projected to be \$2.5 billion in deficit. This projected deficit may put pressure on legislators to cut the budget. In spite of this, Supowitz indicated that he is cautiously optimistic that Pitt will receive flat funding and that the budget will be delivered on time.

Budget Update

Art Ramicone discussed the university budget. He noted that actual tuition revenue is on track to hit budgeted tuition revenue, as negative tuition revenue on the regional campuses is offset by positive tuition revenue for undergraduates on the Pittsburgh campus. No unusual expenses have been reported this year. In addition, research expenditures are up about 5.5% over last year, perhaps because federal agencies are pushing out money due to federal budget concerns. The endowment is up about 5-6%, due to gains in U.S. markets.

Facilities Capital Plan

Dave DeJong outlined the development of the new Facilities Capital Plan (FCP). As the current FCP is coming to end, the chancellor charged a University-wide committee with developing a new FCP last year. The new FCP is designed to support the major initiatives of the Plan for Pitt, support program expansion in strategic areas, enhance student life, and address critical maintenance needs. The three major inputs to the plan were: 1) the Plan for Pitt, 2) an adequacy assessment of all buildings on all campus, and 3) a space needs survey completed by all units. The new FCP will be shorter in duration and more dynamic than the current plan. Specifically, the new FCP will span 10 years (instead of 12) and will be reviewed at years 3 and 6. DeJong highlighted several key projects in the new FCP, including the development of One Bigelow, the renovation of Hillman Library to become a “Library of the Future”, and the construction of an annex to Posvar Hall.

Enrollment Plan

DeJong noted that the provost’s office is working with a consulting firm to develop a strategic enrollment plan for undergraduates on the Pittsburgh campus. Though the plan is focused on undergraduate programs on the Pittsburgh campus, it will be mindful of its impact on the regional campuses as well as graduate and professional programs. Consultants are conducting an analysis of the enrollment process from recruitment to alumni, considering the impacts on staff, faculty, support services, facilities, net tuition, etc. Recommendations will be made in May so that they can be discussed during the June meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.