

University Budget Committee

May 12, 2017
8-10 AM
ITC 205

MINUTES

1. Call-to-order

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 am.

Present: Cheryl Beaver, Debbie Braun, Eric Bruce, Louann Casares, Dan Clark, Michael Ellis, Tina Fuchs, Richard Kavanagh, Malissa Larson, Randi Lydum, Leo Mejia Aguilar, Reina Morgan (Assistant), Brandon Neish (Budget & Payroll Manager), Natasha Roman, Katherine Schmidt, Laura Tierney, Judy Vanderburg, Eric Yahnke (Chair)

2. Review Updated Timeline

Eric provided an updated timeline and shared that WOU's tuition increase was approved.

3. SSCM Funding Model – Brandon Neish (Budget/Payroll)

Brandon discussed the student success and completion funding model (SSCM). This is the model that determines how much state funding WOU receives. It used to be based solely on enrollment but now we are moving more towards outcomes (degrees granted). It is being phased in gradually and during the first few years there is a stop-loss/stop-gain provision that keeps us from losing too much, or gaining too much, as a result of moving from the old model to the new one. This provision will be disengaged by 2020. In addition to student credit hour support there is also mission differentiation funding which covers things like regional support, research, and dual credit enrollment. The important thing for the committee to understand is that we are going more towards outcomes and we need to get students here, and keep them here through graduation.

4. Fee Remission Budget – Natasha Roman (Financial Aid)

Natasha shared the details of our fee remission budget. Fee remissions can only be used for tuition and fees. She explained what all of the remission programs are that we offer as well as improvements that she has been making. She now sends out reminders to students with their renewal requirements so they know what they need to do in order to

continue to get the money and we have had more students who continue to meet the requirements as a result.

5. Other Business

Tina provided an explanation for questions that had been asked regarding housing. The closed residence halls are not suitable for long term housing and need to be torn down. They should not be viewed as space that's available to fill. The housing advisory committee has allocated some money for housing remissions to try to fill the beds in the open residence halls. She also shared that there are classes for some student groups, like RAs, that have remissions and it is because they are taught by staff who are doing this as part of their normal job that they are already receiving their salary for so there is no extra cost to have them teach the class.

Laura shared an update on electricity costs. The main electric bill is about \$50 thousand, plus an additional \$10 thousand for other small bills. The gas and electric bills can total as much as \$100 thousand in the more expensive months. Switching to automatic lights is an expense that would take about 10 years to pay for itself in savings, but we are working towards it gradually.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 am.

The next meeting will be May 19th at 8 am in RVEC 105. This meeting will be recorded on WebEx and the recording will be made available to committee members.