

Planning and Budget Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, May 4, 2012

1:01 pm

In attendance: T. Hynes, M. Crafton, P. Fitzpatrick, N. Momayezi, M. Norman, S. Stephens, P. Barton, B. Momayezi, S. Walsh, E. Krop, E. Manglitz, N. Reddy, S. McElroy, C. Cummings, J. Bryan, B. Carr.

1 and 2. FY13 Funded Items, FY13 Budget

FY13 Funding Requests and FY13 Budget handouts were perused. The dollars allocated for contingency appeared low. While not labeled contingency, some funds, such as lapsed salaries and several institutional fund balances can be used on a one-time basis to address variations in budget caused by changes in economic conditions or enrollment fluctuations. Together with a smaller contingency, this should provide the institution with safeguards against some financial changes. That decision reflects earlier committee discussions.

Complete College Georgia activities were built into USG allocation in the FY13 budget. Details on the use of the \$250,000 allocated for those purposes will be discussed later.

We will carry forward approximately \$300K, well within the limit of 3% of tuition dollars from previous year to subsequent fiscal year.

As of today, summer enrollment is 13.2% lower than Summer 2011. In the intent/spirit of full disclosure, Dr. Hynes ask how comfortable the group was with these numbers. Should we pause moving forward on some of the new initiatives or hold them on contingency, in case we do not meet enrollment expectations?

Pat Barton interjected that there are still approximately 150 students still expected to enroll for summer 2012. She also pointed out the “negative” fact that with the new PELL caps and changes, some students have capped their PELL allowances; however, on a positive note, more students are endeavoring to not accumulate massive debt in school loans. Most students use their PELL allotments in Fall and Spring semesters

Corlis commented that we are cautious as to incoming number of students affecting incoming dollars, which might affect immediately fulfilling all of the funding requests. Dr. Reddy believes the numbers are not as “bad” as they might currently appear because of the trickle-down effect of lower number of students would mean lower overall costs for the university. Dr. Hynes suggested that delaying expenditures/commitments of about \$300,000 until after October 1 (when enrollment and revenue conditions are clearer) would provide an additional safeguard to changes in economic conditions.

3. FY12 Year End

The amount of dollars available for end-of-year expenditures remains “fluid.” The amount ranges from \$300-700K, and depends on summer enrollments and completion of expenditures before the cut-off on departmental purchases. While the exact priority order for end-of-the-year funds may be modified slightly to accommodate these fund balances, the group accepted the “off the top” recommendations (see attached list of requests). There was some discussion about the “case” made for the request for switches to enhance connectivity in Arts and Sciences. These remain high on the list, although it is not clear sufficient funds will be available now for the \$200+K project.