**MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of the CU Denver Downtown Campus Faculty Assembly’s

Budget Priorities Committee

October 3, 2023

Zoom / Rush Conference Room (3rd floor, Learning Commons)

10:30 pm – 12:00 pm

BPC Attendees: Dan Hodges, Kelly McCusker, Todd Ely, Katherine Gunny, David Tracer, Joanne Addison, Miloje Radenkovic, David Hildebrand, Alan Davis, Jody Beck

Others: Guests: Jessica Godo (Business Operations Program Manager, Student Affairs, Staff Council Representative), Jen St. Peter (Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget), Ann Sherman (Executive Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration), Constancio Nakuma (Provost), Turan Kayaoglu (Associate Vice Chancellor of Faculty Affairs)

* Welcome 10:30 – 10:35
* Approval of meeting minutes
  + Approved
* Update from Ann Sherman and Jen St Peter 10:35 – 11:15
* Budget Realignment Update
  + - Have not had a chance to meet with Deans and Directors yet to finalize cuts across schools and colleges.
    - End of this week or early next week campus communication.
    - Prepare now so that there isn’t a sense of urgency later.
    - $3.5M is the bare minimum to meet, $5M is what we were aiming for, it would have been $7M except we paused the equity money and we’re waiting for spring enrollment numbers.
    - Will take a few months for more information about spring enrollment and state funding.
    - Targeting different strategies around transfer including Front Range Community College.
    - Strategic plan is important for this, where are we headed affects finances.
    - Comments
      * Only focusing on headcount and majors is problematic (only two profitable colleges)
      * Not profits, margins between expenses and revenues; net margin is a better term
      * What is the balance for students and how do we get the right balance? These difficult conversations are necessary. Let’s not simplify just to simplify.
* FY 2023-24 CU Denver Educational & General Operating Budget Report
  + How best to communicate this?
  + Suggestion to define institutional units so faculty and staff understand what falls under Academic & Student Affairs, Central Administration, etc.
  + Procurement is a systems office.
  + Some concerns about efficiency lost as we’ve separated more from Anschutz.
  + Send additional feedback to Jen St. Peter.
* Salary Oversight Committee 11:15-11:30
* Tasks, necessity, duplication, role of BPC
* What is the appropriate place for this committee?
* Some of the responsibilities written in the document are part of the department / school.
* This committee is required by regent law and policy; however, we have not had it.
  + *After the meeting, discovered this is no longer true.*
* Two big issues last year were workload and aspirations for the committee.
* One reason this was created was due to lack of communication from some deans about how merit is given.
* Shared governance is not necessarily working in some schools / colleges.
* Bring more clarity in what is happening to ensure they are compliant with regent law and campus policies and that schools and colleges learn from each other.
* IRC Taskforce has been articulate about this committee.
* Policies do exist about staff compensation.
* Invitation to each school/college BPC (or other appropriate committee) 11:30-11:40

to discuss shared governance in the budget process?

* + Faculty only gathering
  + Years ago, BPC tried to investigate what was happening with BPC in schools and colleges but not many people showed up.
  + In a future meeting faculty will explain how the budget process in done at the school / college level.
  + Next meeting focus: policies, by laws, involvement
* Old Business 11:40-12:00
* Improved communication with campus community
* Discussion of the role BPC will play in the ongoing budget realignment process
* Efforts to improve budget transparency/annual budget report
* Role of BPC in program closures—details about the process and metrics to be used
  + There is program closure policy.
* Review of roles/responsibilities (e.g., who oversees the new degree proposal process/ coordinates with BPC for review before they are sent to BOR)
* Budget implications for Provost’s new working committees—commitment to allow BPC to review any budget implications before implementation
* Consulted with rather than reported to