

*(Circulated prior to approval)*



**Senate Budget Advisory  
Committee**

MINUTES OF MEETING #4 (2011-12)

**SENATE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012, 11:30 AM

PLAZA 500A

**PRESENT:** Professor June Corman (Chair), Professor Roberto Nickel (Vice-Chair), Professor Maureen Connolly, Ms. Phuc Dang, Professor Sheng Deng, Dean Tom Dunk, Professor Nota Klentrou, Dr. Murray Knuttila, Professor Dan Malleck, Dean Neil McCartney, Professor Carol Merriam, Professor Steven Renzetti

Ms. Joanne McKee, Mr. Steven Pillar, Ms. Margaret Thompson (Administrative Support)

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:** Professor Barbara Sainty, Dean Ejaz Ahmed

**REGRETS:** Mr. Luke Speers

Professor Corman welcomed members and guests and called the meeting to order. The Chair suggested, and members concurred, that the presentation on the Brock Resource Allocation Model be presented prior to the other Agenda items.

**1. Presentation of the Brock Resource Allocation Model (BRAM)**

By way of an overhead presentation, Professor Sainty provided members with a tutorial on the Brock Resource Allocation Model (BRAM). Included in the presentation was information regarding budgeting at Brock, previous processes utilized, the goals to be achieved following the implementation of BRAM; the design principles which were previously approved by the Committee of Academic Deans in 2008, revenue generation, quality measures, resource allocation, the strategic plan, cost attribution and cost bins.

A copy of the presentation would be forwarded to members following the meeting.

The Committee engaged in a comprehensive discussion, during which Professor Sainty and Ms. McKee responded to questions and received feedback from members. With respect to a question regarding BRAM and research revenue, it was suggested that the discussion continue following today's meeting with Professor Sainty and those interested members as the current model of BRAM does not cover the allocation of research revenue.

It was further noted that the differences in revenue generation among those Faculties that do and do not provide course offerings for the required core and context credits be further examined during the development of BRAM.

Professor Sainty noted that the BRAM Steering Committee (Murray Knuttila, Steven Pillar, Joanne McKee, Kim Meade, Barry Wright, Juan Xu, Tom Dunk, Greg Finn, and Barbara Sainty) continues to move forward toward the implementation of the Brock Resource Allocation Model and welcomes feedback from the BAC.

Professor Corman suggested, and members concurred, that given the mandate of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee, it would be prudent for the Committee to provide advice on a more ongoing basis to the Steering Committee on the development of BRAM. The Committee discussed the potential for a shared representative to participate on both committees. It was suggested to Professor Sainty that it would be beneficial for the Steering Committee to bring forward the different components of the model as they are developed to the Budget Advisory Committee for advice prior to presenting the finished model.

It was further emphasized that it was important for the various Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs of the Senate Committees (who formed the composition of the BAC), to bring forward ongoing information regarding budget impacts on the academic program through the lens of their respective Senate Committee.

The potential to provide a presentation on the budget and BRAM to the entire Senate for a broad-based discussion would be further examined by the Chair and the Chair of Senate.

The Chair thanked Professor Sainty for the informative presentation. Professor Sainty, Ms. McKee and Dr. Knuttila retired from the remainder of the meeting.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

[The minutes of the meeting #2 (2011-12) held on November 15, 2011 and meeting #3 (2011-12) held on December 6, 2011 had been distributed with the meeting materials.]

**MOVED** (Klentrou/Merriam)

**THAT the minutes of meeting #2 (2011-12) of the Budget Advisory Committee held on November 15, 2011 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

**MOVED** (Nickel/Merriam)

**THAT the minutes of meeting #3 (2011-12) of the Budget Advisory Committee held on December 6, 2011 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

**3. Preliminary Advice on the 2012-13 Budget**

The Committee engaged in a discussion regarding potential uses for the unassigned surplus generated from the 2011-12 academic year which had been presented in a Report to the Committee at the previous meeting.

Committee members agreed that it was within the mandate of the Budget Advisory Committee to communicate its support of the use of such a surplus to offset the cuts expected of the Academic Units.

**MOVED** (Nickel/Klentrou)

**That Senate recommend to the University budget planners and to the Board of Trustees that any unassigned surplus generated within the 2011-12 Academic Year be used to offset the cuts expected of the Academic Units.”**

**CARRIED**

The Committee would forward its recommendation to Senate for consideration. However, as the Financial Planning and Human Resources of the Board would soon be considering the 2012-13 budget development report and the principles and guidelines would soon be shared with Budget Developers, it was concurred that the recommendation be immediately communicated to University budget planners and the Board of Trustees. The Chair agreed to forward the communication following the meeting.

**4. Other Business - None**

**5. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.