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**Senate Budget Advisory
Committee**

MINUTES OF MEETING #6 (2011-12)

SENATE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2012, 11:30 AM

13th FLOOR BOARD ROOM

PRESENT: Professor June Corman (Chair), Professor Roberto Nickel (Vice-Chair), Ms. Phuc Dang, Professor Sheng Deng, Dean Tom Dunk, Dr. Greg Finn, Professor Nota Klentrou, Dr. Murray Knuttila, Professor Dan Malleck, Dean Neil McCartney, Professor Carol Merriam, Professor Susan Sydor

Ms. Joanne McKee, Ms. Margaret Thompson (Administrative Support)

ALSO

PRESENT: Dean Ejaz Ahmed, Ms. Astride Silis

REGRETS: Professor Maureen Connolly, Professor Steven Renzetti, Mr. Luke Speers

Professor Corman welcomed members and guests and called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

[The minutes of Meeting #5 (2011-12) held on February 7, 2012 had been distributed with the meeting materials.]

A correction to the minutes was recorded.

MOVED (Dunk/Dang)

THAT the minutes of Meeting #5 (2011-12) of the Budget Advisory Committee held on February 7, 2012 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

In response to a question, Ms. McKee reported that following the budget presentation to the Committee on February 7, the pension valuation was completed and has increased the

annual payment by a further \$1M. This will increase the annual shortfall by the same and would further increase current accumulated deficit projections. Updated projections with strategies are underway and will be shared at future meetings."

The Chair reminded members that there were two more scheduled Committee meetings, one on April 17 at 2:00 p.m. and the final meeting on May 18 at 10:00 a.m. For the April 17th meeting, the "Budget Update Projections and Strategies" presentation would be redistributed to members to assist with deliberations. With respect to the May 18th meeting, it was noted that the time of the meeting may need to be and members would be advised accordingly.

Professor Corman alerted members to the tight timelines associated with the May 18th meeting. Of note, the draft final 2012-13 budget will be distributed electronically to members in the early evening on the day before the meeting as the draft budget must first be presented to the Financial Planning and Human Resources Committee of the Board on Thursday, May 17. The Chair requested that members be cognizant of the time that will be required for them to review the documentation on the evening of May 17 as the Committee will be considering a recommendation to Senate with respect to the operating budget's consistency with academic policy at the May 18 meeting. Following the Committee's meeting on May 18, a Report will be developed and forwarded to the Secretary of Senate for posting with the Senate materials that same day in order to keep within the five-day rule.

3. Observations by Faculty Deans re: Operating Budget's Consistency with Academic Policy

Professor Corman related that Dean Kneale and Dean Blaikie were unable to attend today's meeting.

Dean Ahmed then provided observations from the viewpoint of the Faculty of Mathematics and Science. Noting that he had only been at the University for a few months, he shared the following comments:

- It would be nice to know the basis of allocation for the Faculty's base budget to work back to a starting point. Once a starting point has been determined (again) for base budget, please list the methods by which it can be adjusted.
- It would be interesting to have a summary of key points from target submissions from other Faculties. From this we could see common areas of concern, common goals, and new initiatives and strategies. The Provost has already suggested to Deans to work together, a welcomed initiative.
- Additional costs, for example, BUFA - computer costs, BUFA - conference assistance, GPD overloads, should be reflected in the budget process.
- The budget should reflect the cost requirements for programs which require considerably more by way of lab and materials supplies, equipment repair, etc.

During a brief discussion, Dean Ahmed responded to questions from members. The Chair thanked him for his presentation.

4. Committee Discussion re: Advice on the 2012-13 Budget – Reflection on the BRAM Presentation/Input to BRAM Steering Committee

The Chair opened the floor for a reflective discussion. During discussion, it was noted that additional input is needed from elected Senators regarding the various modes of pedagogical innovation which may be implemented, the beneficial gains for the University, and the associated financial implications. It was also suggested that many innovative pedagogical changes can be made by instructors through a consultative process with minimal or no cost. The Chair of Senate noted that Senate would be provided an opportunity to further discuss these issues and more at special forum which is currently being scheduled.

5. Other Business – None

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.