MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET
Meeting of February 23, 2006

Present: Chair Paul Koch, Faye Crosby, Onuttom Narayan, Ray Gibbs, Quentin Williams, Ravi Rajan, Don Rothman, David Evan Jones, Emily Honig, Marina Sarran, Saurabh Mishra, Mary-Beth Harhen

Absent: (with notice) Saurabh Mishra

Guests: CPEVC Dave Kliger, Assistant Provost Charlotte Moreno Physical and Biological Sciences Interim Dean Steve Thorsett, VC Planning and Budget Meredith Michaels

Member’s Items
Member Ray Gibbs reported on the American Studies External Review Closure meeting. Although the department has a high number of majors, the number of graduates is declining. CPB’s concerns that the Department might not be able to support its undergraduate curriculum given recent separations, failed searches, and faculty leaves were discussed at the closure meeting. CPB briefly discussed possible alternate administrative structures for the department.

CPB noted that their recommendation that the Review not conclude until the department had opportunity to comment on their current circumstances (different from when they wrote their response to the review) was not taken up by VPAA Galloway. They agreed to ask her reasoning for this at the upcoming consultation.

LRDP/EIR Resolution for Senate Meetings
The Committee refined wording of the resolution, which must be submitted today. The resolution calls upon the administration to refrain from transmitting the LRDP/EIR to the Regents until analytical errors and omissions in the documents have been addressed. The final resolution will be sent around via email with responses due by 4:30.

Resolution on Merit Scholarship Funding
Member Onuttom Narayan reported on the Senate Executive Committee meeting. The Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid (CAFA) has withdrawn their resolution on increasing funding to Regent’s scholarships. CAFA expressed skepticism that the administration would promptly create a plan for a permanent funding model, but was willing to allow them some time. The resolution may reappear for a Spring quarter Senate meeting.

Consultation with CPEVC Dave Kliger
Review of the divisional academic plans will result in a campus academic plan. CPEVC Kliger requested that CPB consider what components are essential for a campus plan. CPB agreed that this will be the topic of a future consultation.
VC Planning and Budget Meredith Michaels presented a budgetary view of UCSC’s current enrollments. There is a system-wide shortfall in enrollments this year and UCSC, like most other campuses did not meet their target. The Department of Finance demographic data show this year and next as the peak for high school graduates. However, all three segments; UC, CSU and the community colleges are below projected enrollments.

This year UCOP may take back funds since UCSC did not meet the enrollment target. Although the numbers are not yet certain, the loss to the campus could be as high as $4 million. Additionally there is loss of revenue from other mandatory fees such as transit fees, child care, etc. The CPEVC stated that he would attempt to shield academic programs from the cuts this year, but that they would affect planned growth in the academic divisions if enrollments remained low. The loss of revenue also creates hard choices between priorities such as funding Regents scholars or funneling money to admissions to get the overall enrollments up.

CPB noted that if we simply raised our retention rates by 5%, this would solve the enrollment problem. This is why the work of CEP and VPDUE Ladusaw is so important. CPB discussed the implications for long-term planning of enrollment growth. If the growth predicted by state demographics does not materialize, then planning should be structured around reallocation rather than incremental increases produced by growth.

Looking ahead, the current enrollment dip requires that next year’s enrollments recoup this shortfall and meet next year’s targets. Because it is a system-wide problem, all campuses are competing for the same pool of students. The situation is further complicated by a decline in graduate student enrollments. UC Berkeley counters this decline by simply admitting more undergraduates, drawing from the pool that would have otherwise gone to other campuses.

CPEVC Kliger agreed that when the exact number of the shortfall and consequent impact on funding are known, he will inform CPB.

CPB informed the CPEVC of the resolution that the committee intends to put forward for the upcoming Senate meeting. The committee explained that resolution is based on their comments on the draft EIR and the CPB report of last spring. It is also based on two years of interaction with the administration through the processes of the Strategic Futures committee, the LRDP and the draft EIR. At each stage CPB was told by the administration that it was not appropriate to address CPB’s issues about growth at this particular stage. CPEVC Kliger expressed concern that resolutions are public and that the consequence of it passing could be perceived as a faculty statement opposing growth.

Consultation with CPEVC Dave Kliger and Interim Physical and Biological Science Dean Steve Thorsett

The Department of Mathematics has submitted a request for an off-cycle hire to fill an off cycle retirement, which the Interim Dean supports. The department is conducting a
search that has presented a very strong pool of applicants and it would like to attempt a second hire. Interim Dean Thorsett described the additional hire as compatible with hiring plans and the general direction of the department. Otherwise, the department would be searching again next year.

**Post Consultation**
CPB saw no basis on which to deny the Mathematics request. Given the department’s cumbersome recruitment process and the likelihood of a similar search next year, the committee agreed to recommend that the request be approved.

CPB touched briefly on the topic of UCSC’s increasing dependency on extramural funds. The committee has not seen plans for how this need will be met and agreed to consult with the new VC University Relations and the AVC for Development.