

MINUTES
COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET
Meeting of February 14, 2008

Present: Chair Susan Gillman, Michael Brown, Emily Honig, Lori Kletzer, Tracy Larrabee, Herbert Lee, Karen Otteman, Olga Najera-Ramirez, Grant Pogson, Quentin Williams and Mary-Beth Harhen

Guests: EVC Dave Kliger, VC Meredith Michaels and Dean Stephen Thorsett

Member Items

CPB member Lori Kletzer reported that Social Sciences has been troubled by rumors of departments being moved into the renovated McHenry Library. From a planning perspective faculty members are wondering how this suddenly came up because the move would have enormous budget implications. A final decision is supposed to be made by the end of the week. CPB agreed that the move seems poorly planned and will ask the EVC about it during its consultation with him.

Graduate and Professional Student Diversity Report

CPB noted that the report is not very comprehensive. The committee was surprised about the under enrollments, particularly with regard to African American students. At every level enrollments of African Americans are dropping, but there is nothing in the report that discusses the climate and why these students do not want to enroll. CPB also noted that financial issues are a concern, yet there is no fiscal analysis of competitive funding packages for graduate students or the effect of fee increases. Where will the money come from? Will OP simply reshuffle current money and take funds from somewhere else? From a financial stand point is there a prioritization?

Consultation with EVC Kliger and Dean Thorsett

The consultation began with Dean Thorsett presenting his recruiting strategy, which he will send in writing to CPB early next week. PBSci conducted searches in three departments this year and he would like to make two hires from each of the three searches. Some of the hires are partner hires and presidential post doctoral hires. If the hires are successful, he said, UCSC will have the best structural biology department on the west coast; the hires are consistent with the divisional growth plan. PBSci is not asking for central resources, and start up is between \$500k – 600k per position. Some existing faculty members have committed to giving up portions of their labs to make room for these hires. After this there will be no additional hiring until PBSci has new space.

Following the consultation with Dean Thorsett, EVC Kliger provided an update on the state budget. It is currently anticipated that the cuts will be between 7 – 18 million dollars. The campus is working on a number of scenarios concerning how to handle the cuts. In addition the campus is concerned that the Regents may call for a number of unfunded mandates.

EVC Kliger provided an outline for a couple of different scenarios for budget cuts. The first is across-the-board cuts, protecting instruction as much as possible. The second is to cut particular areas ten percent. The third scenario is central reductions. The EVC would not handout any FTE or I&R support for the coming year. To build up reserves the EVC would reduce FTE allocations to about 50 percent of what we get this year and 75 percent the following year.

This issue will not be resolved until after the state budget is passed after July 1. Until then the campus will continue to flush out the various scenarios and be prepared to make a final decision when the budget is finalized. CPB expressed concern that ITS and UR will be completely protected from cuts. Meanwhile the demands on faculty time continue to grow.

Consultation with CAP Chair Barry Bowman

Committee on Academic Personnel (CAP) Chair Bowman began by saying that if faculty are concerned about salaries, they need to communicate more overtly with the administration. It has always been an area of intense concern to faculty but no one has ever done anything proactively. CAP Chair Bowman explained that faculty salary concerns are two fold. UCSC is the lowest paid of all the campuses, and last year's adjustments to the salary scales simultaneously fixed some existing problems and created new ones. A Senate Executive Committee (SEC) subcommittee has come up with proposal to raise UCSC's salaries so UCSC gets to the median of all UC campuses (excluding UCB and UCLA). CAP Chair Bowman closed by saying that before this proposal moves forward, the Senate needs AHR and EVC support.