COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET
MINUTES
December 1, 2016

Present: Abel Rodriguez (Chair), Óllef Einarsdóttir (ex officio), Kimberly Lau (ex officio), Elizabeth Abrams, Adrian Brasoveanu, Cormac Flanagan, Lindsay Hinck, Tracy Larrabee, Lourdes Martínez-Echazábal, Rick Prelinger, Carl Walsh, Graeme Baird (Graduate Rep), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Ray Inoue (Undergrad Rep), Matthew Mednick (Senate Director)

Member’s Items
Member Einarsdóttir provided an update on the Academic Council meeting of November 30, 2016. She reported that topics of discussion included the recent Regent’s meeting, a proposed nonresident enrollment policy in development that will be discussed at the January Regents’ meeting, and discussion about the recent letter signed by the UC, CSU, and California Community Colleges to President-Elect Trump about allowing Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students to continue to work and study.

Member Einarsdóttir also provided an update on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) meeting of November 29, 2016. Topics of discussion included allocation of academic resources, and waiver and second hire guidelines.

Member Einarsdóttir provided an update on the Senate meeting of November 18, 2016.

Member Brasoveanu provided an update on the Advisory Committee on Campus Transportation and Parking (ACCTP) of November 30, 2016. He reported the committee is focusing on transit this year and not on parking. Members discussed that it would be useful to investigate how to incorporate some of the work within the purview of the ACCTP into the LRDP process.

Coastal Science and Policy M.S. & PDST Proposal
The committee continued its review of the revised proposal for an M.S. in Coastal Science and Policy and professional degree supplemental tuition (PDST) proposal. CPB comments are routed to Graduate Council.

The committee found that the revised proposal and supporting documentation mostly addressed the concerns raised during the first review of the proposal (spring 2016), however, the committee also noted a few questions and concerns. Members wondered about the planned two-course relief for the director, and the extent to which this is consistent with comparable positions within the division and the campus. The committee also noted that the FTE allocation to the program is generous in comparison to other programs that are high campus priorities, larger, and have a more complex organizational structure. In light of this, CPB would not expect to see further hiring requests for this program unless enrollments greatly exceeded the expectations in the proposal. Members also expressed concern about the balance of the cost of attendance, potential student interest, and job opportunities for graduates. CPB overall recommended that the program move forward but be closely monitored and that the three year review closely examine several areas, including the ability of the program to secure additional external funding for its graduate students, its ability to attract a strong pool of applicants and secure the level of enrollment necessary for its financial viability, its ability to secure jobs for its graduates that provide adequate financial return on their investment, the workload of faculty and the director, and the ability of students to secure appropriate internships. The committee also noted its surprise that the Graduate Division made a commitment to provide $30,000 per year to support admission during the first five years. This contribution alleviates some of the committee’s concerns about graduate student support in the initial program roll-out stage, but also necessarily detracts from funding for Ph.D. students, which is the campus priority.
Systemwide Review of Proposed Revised PDST Policy
Members reviewed the revised policy for Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST), which proposes to incorporate current Regents Policy 3104 (Principles Underlying the Determination of Fees for Students of Professional Degree Programs) into a revised Regents Policy 3103 (Policy on Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition).

The committee noted its support for the revised proposed policy’s focus on the importance of maintaining access, diversity, and affordability in PDST programs, continuing the existing policy of ensuring that financial aid is maintained at a level as least equal to 33% of all PDST revenue. Members also noted support for multi-year plans for fee levels, which simplify the process as each increase will no longer need to go to the Regents.

Committee members raised concerns only with section 4.e. of the proposed new policy. This section states “4.e. The charging of PDSTs and increases in PDSTs shall not occasion corresponding declines in State support for the professional schools offering the degree programs that charge a PDST.” The specific mention of professional schools in the policy was viewed as problematic. The committee noted that at UCSC, there are PDST programs, such as the Applied Economics and Finance program--part of the Division of Social Sciences--that are not offered in a professional school. The old policy simply stated that PDST revenues should remain with the campus. In the committee’s view, the old language was too broad in that PDST revenues should be directed to benefit the students in the PDST programs, but the new language is too narrow in suggesting the policy applies only to PDST programs housed within a professional school. CPB recommended that section 4.e be clarified to ensure PDST revenues flow back to benefit students in the PDST programs, an objective that would not be achieved if administrative units housing the programs redirected funds to other uses or if State funds were diverted on the argument that the program could rely on its PDST revenues. The committee noted the latter would not be consistent with the fact that PDST programs are state-supported and not self-supporting programs.

Consultation: BSOE Dean
The committee consulted with Baskin School of Engineering Dean Alex Wolf. BSOE Assistant Dean McLean was also in attendance. The consultation was intended as an informal mutual introduction.

Pre-Consultation Discussion: CP/EVC
The committee prepared for its December 8, 2016 consultation with CP/EVC Galloway and Interim CP/EVC Lee.

Planning: December 8 Meeting
The committee briefly discussed planned items for its next meeting.