COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET
MINUTES
December 8, 2016

Present: Abel Rodriguez (Chair), Óláf Einarsdóttir (ex officio), Kimberly Lau (ex officio), Elizabeth Abrams, Adrian Brasoveanu, Cormac Flanagan, Lindsay Hinck, Tracy Larrabee, Rick Prelinger, Carl Walsh, Graeme Baird (Graduate Rep), Matthew Mednick (Senate Director), Esthela Bañuelos (Senate Analyst)

Absent: Lourdes Martínez-Echazábal, Ray Inoue (Undergrad Rep), Allyson Guo (Undergrad Rep)

Guest: Committee on Committees (COC) Chair Micah Perks

Member’s Items
Member Walsh attended the UCPB meeting of December 6, 2016 and provided an update. He reported that topics of discussion included the recent Regents meeting, a potential proposal for caps on nonresident enrollment in development, and the revised proposed professional degree supplemental tuition (PDST) policy.

Member Einarsdóttir provided a briefing on the external review closure meeting (December 2, 2016) for the Feminist Studies Department.

External Review
Stage 2: Comments on the ERC Report
Politics
The committee reviewed and discussed the Politics department external review. CPB commended the department for its commitment to its undergraduate major. The committee expressed disappointment that the external review committee (ERC) focused almost exclusively on questions posed by the Dean, leaving Senate supplemental questions largely unaddressed. The committee also raised additional issues for discussion at the closure meeting, including staffing, the relationship between three various programs clustered together (Politics, Legal Studies, 3+3 Hastings program), the “divergence between faculty and student interests” noted by the department in context of limited resources, and hiring plans.

MLC Preliminary Assessment Report
With member Abrams recused, CPB reviewed the preliminary assessment report of UCSC’s Multilingual Curriculum for International Students (MLC). CPB forwards its review comments to CEP; CEP has been asked to approve extending the MLC beyond this year.

CPB commended the Writing Program for mounting this curriculum quickly and effectively to meet the needs of the growing international student population on campus, as well as the success of the program as reflected in the ELWR-satisfaction pass rates. The committee’s discussion focused on four issues for CEP to consider: the difference in ELWR-portfolio evaluation for MLC students vs non-MLC students and its impacts; the different class sizes for MLC students and non-MLC students and its impacts; the comparison of ELWR-satisfaction rates for MLC and non-MLC students presented in the report, given the differences between the groups (the committee instead recommends comparison between suitably matched MLC and non-MLC students in subsequent courses); and a recommendation that more financial information should be reported, including adding the cost of the MLC program within the budget envelope being developed for the writing/core program, to allow for proper evaluation of financial viability.
Consultation: CP/EVC
The committee consulted with CP/EVC Galloway and Interim CP/EVC Lee on the following topics: academic analytics, CP/EVC Lee’s request for discussion of FTE for Silicon Valley programs, and strategic academic planning. Vice Chancellor for Planning and Budget Peggy Delaney attended the consultation.

On the topic of Academic Analytics the conversation focused on the benefits that the database has brought to the campus (for example, by helping identify untapped sources of extramural funding), as well as the challenges that go with extending its use to areas such as strategic hiring (which would require allowing broader access to the database, which in turn would increase the risks of it being used to guide personnel actions). The conversation also included the activities of the high-level working group that is tasked with working on setting up guidelines for the wider use of the database. Both CPB and CP/EVCs Galloway and Lee agreed that, unless substantial progress is made in the next few months, Academic Analytics should be discontinued once the current contract expires.

On the topic of FTE for Silicon Valley programs, the discussion focused around the appropriate level of faculty staffing (both ladder rank faculty and lecturers) for both existing and new programs. In particular, the discussion focused on balancing the need to provide enough resources to have viable programs, the financial risks of not achieving the enrollment targets, and holding groups accountable for the proposals that were the basis for the selection.

On the topic of strategic academic planning, the committee previously reviewed the 2008 campus Strategic Academic Plan and Action Plan as background for thinking about future planning. CP/EVC Galloway noted the new CP/EVC will likely want to lead an strategic academic planning, and Senate leadership and CPB might want to think about what they would like to see in a new plan, what processes might help the campus get to those goals, and how to evaluate and prioritize choices. There was also discussion about the issue of interdisciplinarity, and specifically, supporting and encouraging interdisciplinarity while at the same time building disciplinary strengths, what types of infrastructure that might require, and what kinds of interdisciplinarity the campus might want.

Consultation: Arts Dean
The committee consulted with Arts Division Dean Susan Solt. The consultation was intended as an informal mutual introduction.

Target of Excellence (TOE) Waiver of Open Recruitment Request
With member Hinck recused, the MCD Biology department submitted a proposal for a TOE waiver of open recruitment. The committee reviewed the request and will forward its recommendation to the CP/EVC.