Strategic Planning & Budget Committee
(SPBA)

Meeting Notes – December 20, 2018

Attendees: Michael Ciri, Karen Carey, Kristen Handley, Eric Scott, Julie Vigil, Rick Caulfield, Steve Atwater, Pete Traxler, Nathan Leigh, Elise Tomlinson, Kate Govaars (Faculty Senate), Nick Bursell (Student Government), Keni Campbell (meeting notes), Priscilla Schulte, Trisha Lee, Mae Delcastillo, Jon Lasinski, Joe Nelson, Leslie Gordon

Budget Update: Michael - OMB’s new director is Donna Arduin. In terms of university, we are responding to requests for meetings from the legislature. Waiting for info from president. Nothing new to report other than it does not seem overly negative. Rick - the president is meeting with a number of senators, committee co-chairs are Stedman and Von Imhof. They are aware about what the university has undergone over the last several years. The house is looking at a more bipartisan approach. Hopefully this will be settled by the time session starts. Razor thin majority will not make for a productive session, so a bipartisan organization would help with that.

Information Request from President Johnsen: Due January 3. Request from President to look at efficiencies past, present, future, to reduce costs. Summary - we are wanting to look from 2015 until now, and then what we anticipate we will start in the near term. Several categories listed. Quantify as much as possible. Will need to report to the BOR in January, and president’s team will need to report based on what the universities give them. Asking to provide quantified information whenever possible, sending responses to both Michael and Karen, to make sure things don’t get forgotten. Info to include would be examples of streamlined processes, removal of unnecessary steps, energy efficiency, etc. They are looking at the whole system, so don’t worry about getting too granular (i.e. capturing staffing reductions), but talk about things like different licensing models in the library, journal subscriptions, etc. Audience is BOR and the Legislature both. The message to convey is that UAS has made hard decisions. We have sought ways to reduce operating expenses, administrative costs, while still preserving quality of our programs. Facilities things would be things like reduction of debt services, consolidating our footprint. BOR increasingly wants to look thematically at the 5 large system-wide goals - fifth goal is about efficiencies. Compiled information should be available on the BOR BoardDocs as it is for a public meeting. Expect that the UAS section will be heavily edited beyond what we submit. With new administration it’s expected that lots of future reporting will be requested from the university. Trisha asked about EMSA sending a google doc. Joe Nelson will still be here on the day this report is due. Kristen noted there is a lot of written information regarding improvements in the accreditation document that can be used for this report. She will send applicable highlights from that. Jon noted the Sightlines report should have a lot of facilities information we can include. Michael noted that UAS has done a very good job, and the key will be to make sure we include as much information about the hard decisions and improvements that have been made since 2015. Send to Michael and Karen by January 2.

Accreditation: In process of each department reading over the accreditation report and providing comments. In most cases changes have been accepted, but there are instances where wording has changed, and some suggestions that were not accepted. Will send the 187-page report on to Alison Krein by January 3 and she will have about a month to produce a proof. Karen and Kristen will be
reviewing it more over the winter break. NWCCU requires that a public statement be made about accreditation - social media, newspapers, etc. We will blanket people with opportunities to provide input about accreditation. Guidance is provided by NWCCU team. Karen has checked in with committee chair Nathan Lindsey. Other team members will be appointed soon, which will help in formulating the itinerary. Then will let people know what the schedule will be for meetings. Kristen thanked everyone for reading the document and their work on it. Kristen will share it with Nick Bursell to make sure student government have a chance to review. Chancellor Caulfield thanks everyone, especially Kristen and Karen, for their work on this. As we get closer to the site visit this will accelerate and this process will help everyone prepare.

**Upcoming meeting dates:**
January 24, 2019  
February 14, 2019  
March 14, 2019  
April 11, 2019