Strategic Planning & Budget Committee (SPBAC)

Meeting Notes/Summary of Discussion – September 3, 2019

Attendees: Michael Ciri, Eric Lingle, Julie Vigil, Jon Lasinski, Elise Tomlinson, Noelle Gangle, Heather Batcheldor, Sarah Belmont, Mae Delcastillo, Trisha Lee, Peter Sommers, Maren Haavig, Karen Cary, Kristen Handley, Pete Traxler, Denise Carl, Nathan Leigh, Lori Klein, Thomas Thornton, Rick Caulfield
VIA Teleconference: Priscilla Schulte, Kate Govaars, Leslie Gordon, Jill Hansen, Scott Christian

Meeting started at 4:00 pm

Updated FY20 Budget: presented by Michael with input from Karen and Rick

UAS was asked to develop an FY20 budget a week or so ago in light of compact signed with Governor’s office. Went over FY20 handout, which was created in response to that request.

President was clearer about where he wanted reductions, wanted to show that majority of cuts are on administrative side. Administration in this context is being referred to as everything that is not student services or direct instruction in the classroom. Examples are CELT and Learning Center, which are considered instructional support. Also staff. Anything that is not in the classroom is administration.

[Correction to Michael’s example, CELT would be considered “administration” but the Learning Center is considered instruction]

2.59 mil size of reduction from FY19 to FY20. 1.3 mil to Administration, 1.2 to academic services. Overall 10% of total UGF.

Positions identified on the handout are ones that are currently vacant or soon to be.

Some discussion was had regarding difference between student services and instructional support and how the cuts will be applied regarding the budget. Some confusion with the term administration. It was reiterated that in this context it is broader than “administrative services” and is meant to include everything not involved in direct student support or instruction.

UAS is receiving a proportional reduction with UAA and UAF, notwithstanding the dual appropriation. (To be accomplished through internal RSAs).

Dual appropriation is in place. Money flows across appropriations using RSAs. RSAs have to be approved by OMB.
Very possible that dual appropriation will only be here for FY20, and likely that it will go away.

Our next immediate step needs to be to look toward FY21 which will have an additional cut of 25 million. Expectation is that it will be largely fleshed out in Fairbanks this year, as opposed to previous years where the following fiscal year is worked on at the beginning of the previous one by each university individually.

Current FY20 budget is reflected in the handout.

Going forward Michael is open to ideas about how to realize next year’s additional 2.5 million cut.

Review of Anticipated Pathways for UA-Wide Program Reviews: Presented by Karen with input from Michael and Rick

These are expedited program reviews. Referred group to New UA website, where the committees and restructuring meetings are described.  
https://www.alaska.edu/newua/

Have not heard much yet about those meetings. Nothing has been clearly determined yet. Will probably be set more clearly with BOR meeting.

BOR needs to approve this and the expedited program reviews at the meeting first. Expects that support is there. Noted that President would say the outcomes would be valuable regardless of whether UA becomes a single university or not. The reviews will be happening between September and November, approximately 5 weeks. Very short time frame.

Very important question is who will serve on those committees. Goal is to get stakeholders from across the board. Looking at possible 2 day meetings to discuss these things. Would like to see external participants in addition to UA participants.

Currently waiting to see what the BOR decides. Stay tuned for upcoming BOR meetings.

Next SPBAC meeting scheduled for 9/16/19, after the BOR meetings.

BOR will not be approving or disapproving particular structure. That is not the intent for that meeting.

November BOR meeting will be the one to watch in regards to FY21 and UA structure.

Stay tuned for ad hoc SPBAC meetings as needed going forward.

Please inform your people of what has been discussed at SPBAC.

Public testimony opportunity next Monday 4-6 at BOR. Get the word out for that.
This Thursday 9/5 will be a Chancellor’s forum on the budget and restructuring. Presentation along with Q&A session. Encourage all to attend or listen in to the Forum. Located in the Egan Lecture Hall.

Management reports will be going forward.

Intent for BOR meeting is whether or not to approve moving forward with expedited program reviews, not on the UA structure.

Keep in mind that FY21 will be an additional 25 million, then FY22 will be another 20 million cut. We will need to plan for this going forward and keep it in mind as we move ahead.

BOR meeting is in Anchorage, then the next one will be in Fairbanks. September meeting would normally be in Juneau, but that was changed to Anchorage during the exigency to save travel money. Hopefully that will change next year and go back to Juneau.

Meeting ended at 4:53pm