

University Budget Advisory Committee
March 12, 2014

In attendance: Nabil Al-Tikriti (chair), Colin Rafferty (secretary), John Morello, Joe Romero, Stephen Farnsworth, Mukesh Srivastava, Jose Sainz, Rick Pearce, Jonathan Levin, Paul Messplay, Martin Wilder, Susan Worrell, Leah Cox, Patricia Reynolds, Mary Gendernalik-Cooper, Richard Finkelstein.

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM.

Rappahannock Scholars

Leah Cox spoke for the Rappahannock Scholars program. In existence since 2008, the program has targeted under-represented students in the Northern Neck area. Funded initially by a pair of external foundation grants with the agreement that the university would pick up the responsibility. Currently 27 students participate in the program.

Requests funds to continue the program in high schools and UMW; funds would not go towards scholarships.

Events/Conferences/Programming

Martin Wilder spoke about events/conferences/programming at UMW. Susan Worrell discussed the requests (see attached list):

1. Add an Audio Technician/Asst Technical Director line to the staff of Dodd Auditorium.
2. (4) Equipment Purchase for New Office for webcasting office.
3. (3) Increase Operating Budget for Events AV (first increase in eight years)
4. Establish a permanent Student Employment Budget for webcasting
5. Increase Operating Budget for Dodd Auditorium
6. Dodd Auditorium graduate assistant

Farnsworth: numbers correspond to priority rather than order, yes?

Minutes

Joe Romero moved to approve the minutes; Al-Tikriti seconded. Minutes were approved as amended for 2/12, 2/19, and 2/26 UBAC meetings.

Academic Affairs

Jonathan Levin discussed adjustment from previous meeting. Some expenditures were missed, which will be added into what the committee has already seen.

ITCC

John Morello spoke on the needs of the Information and Technology Convergence Center.

- Convert part-time Writing Center administrative support line into full-time line for Speaking Center/Writing Center/CTE/DTLT/Digital Knowledge Center. This would connect a lot of unconnected departments/programs.
- A series of positions (includes special assistant to the provost for teaching and learning) to assist with management/administration of video/audio editing/production suites. Part

of the reality is hiring good people and paying them a competitive wage. New position: AV assistant; special assistant (hire-behinds + salary stipend – actual number will be based on salary of person hired; remainder will be for salary bumps).

Al-Tikriti asked if the desire to retain skilled hires would apply across the board throughout faculty; Levin stated that the increase allows for more depth in the hiring structure of DTLT.

Morello discussed the Digital Knowledge Center (“imagine the Writer Center or Speaking Center, but focused on the application of digital technology”), requesting funds to support operation budget/student aides.

Reynolds asked about a similar request from the library. Morello stated that there is a control point between the Library and the ITCC—these are two different spaces, even if they are physically connected. Al-Tikriti asked if the DKC was an outgrowth of DTLT, a way of becoming more hands-on instructive. Levin: yes—it’s a way of creating a student face for DTLT.

Levin suggested that the first ten list items (and DTLT operating piece) are necessary priorities:

- Operating Budget for the ITCC
- Staffing for student aides
- Funds to stockpile/replace equipment as necessary

Center for International Education

Jose Sainz spoke on the Center for International Education: a small personnel item (#12); currently two staff members who are wage employees; budget request would allow them to become classified employees (20-31.9 hours/week).

Nursing Program/MSGS

Richard Finkelstein spoke on the process for the nursing program; final approval due Monday. MSGS actively recruiting students. Both programs on track for next year, but need funding.

Biology & Chemistry

Biology & Chemistry Items (#15 & #18): Biology’s contracts have increased in price over the years without an increase in the budget. The price of chemicals has vastly outpaced inflation.

Reynolds asked if there was a way to avoid making these adjustments annually. Levin responded that we know that these costs are coming; usually they’ve been dealt with by reorganizing within the department budgets, and this is our first attempt at anticipating these material costs.

Finkelstein added that these two departments have the least control over costs.

The last three items had to do with accreditation expenses: Mary Gendernalik-Cooper spoke on the necessity of accreditation for the College of Education. Request looks for a sustainable level of funding that allows for all teachers’ needs, whether full-time or adjunct. Levin discussed the process by which these costs are covered currently, in which departments and colleges make internal cuts to allow for these necessities.

Meeting adjourned at 5:51 PM.