

University Budget Advisory Committee Minutes - Oct. 4, 2024

Attending: Andrew (Drew) Delaney (chair), Dan Hubbard, Scott Gerseny, Smita Jain Oxford, Kristina Peck, Marisa Martinez-Mira, Kim McManus-Carini, Tracey Funtanilla, Patrick Catullo

- Welcome and introductions of guests Kevin Caffrey, Beth Druvenga and Greg DuBois

Drew Delaney introduced topics and guests for the meeting.

Kevin Caffrey – President’s Council on Sustainability

- Kevin introduced Kate Stoneman, Staff Co-Chair for the Council and Eric Bonds, Faculty Co-Chair for the Council.
- Kevin expressed the Council has been around for 15 years and they are asking for a \$15,000 budget to perform normal and basic operations of the council including three major areas, outreach and awareness, project implementation, and event support. The money for outreach awareness would go towards PCS marketing materials, promotions, and event giveaways to promote and raise awareness of our existence, purpose, and the work that we do every year.
- The impact and scope of the council is extremely limited by lack of funds.
- Currently the council only receives funds or resources by the generosity of different departments on campus.
- Events such as the Youth Climate Conference are very limited in scale and impact even though the event includes high school students from Stafford, Spotsylvania and Fredericksburg area.
- Tracey asked Kevin said they have reached out the foundation for fund raising initiatives. Kevin said they have reached out but that with the uncertainty of what will be raised each year would negatively impact the operations of the council compared to having a dedicated budget.
- Tracey also asked if the President appointed the Council, Kevin replied that he did set up the council but with no dedicated budget.
- Kevin explained that Brenda Togo is the new full-time Sustainability Coordinator to help with the council, however, there is no budget line for the President’s Council on Sustainability. It was pointed out that UMW receives recognition for its sustainability efforts, but still no funding is offered.
- Kevin explained that the impact of the funding could be as small as an offering at the Registrar’s office during the first week of school in which they actually had a swag item that the students loved and then engaged with the council.
- Patrick Catullo asked about the size of the committee, its members and length of time that the committee has existed. Kevin replied that the committee is divided every year to have seven faculty, seven staff and seven students. Approximately 21 people. The committee has been formed since 2009.

Beth Druvenga – Athletics – Sports Medicine

- Drew introduced Beth as the Head of the Sports Medicine department at UMW.

- Beth expressed that both Director of Athletics, Patrick Catullo and President Paino are aware of her need for more athletic training staff.
- Beth described the role of the athletic trainers as multi-skilled healthcare professionals that provide care under the direction of a physician, and we are skilled in the prevention, evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of emergent, acute, and chronic injuries. Certified by a national credentialing board as well as licensed by the Virginia Board of Medicine. They are skilled allied healthcare providers. And have the pleasure of caring for the student athletes at Mary Washington and keeping them on the field and the court and in their playing venue as much as possible.
- Beth described that because of the current staffing model, Trainers are asked to work 60 hours a week including weekends, weekend nights and week nights. The part time trainer works 30-35 hours per week.
- Because of the work they do, they can also provide rehab and care to athletes to avoid co-pay and other costs associated with care in the private sector.
- UMW is increasing the number of student athletes and it's challenging her staff even more with time required and quality of care. Right now the ratio is 133 to 1.
- Also because of the staffing situation, days off are very hard to schedule or allow. It only puts more burden on the other trainers as the athletics never really stop during the school year.
- In the first 5 weeks of school there were over 1500 trainer-athlete interactions and that only includes office visits compared to all visits at practice and games.
- Burnout is a major issue in the Athletic Training field and we are risking burnout with our current staff if the situation doesn't change.
- According to the National Athletic Trainers Association the appropriate amount of trainers needed for our athletic department would be 7.3 based on number of athletes and sports offered.
- Drew Delaney explained that the NCAA has allowed more practice and competing time for sports but offered no assistance in this area for schools. This change only puts more of a burden on Athletic Trainers.
- Patrick Catullo expressed that the need for more Athletic Trainers has been included in his Strategic Plan through 2030 and there are ongoing discussions about where an increase in staff fits into that plan.
- Beth expressed that any support that UBAC can give to this issue will help the student athletes at UMW and her staff retention and quality of work.

Greg DuBois – Interim CFO/Consultant for UMW

- Drew Delaney described the current situation of the UMW UBAC committee and that the committee recommended itself to be disbanded based on the lack of purpose for the committee and lack of understanding of the protocol for the committee.
- Drew expressed that the UFC rejected that recommendation because of the Handbook's requirement to have the committee in case of financial exigency.
- Greg expressed that he agreed that the UBAC committee should exist but also expressed that the current situation of communication between the committee and the administration is not ideal and that it is understandable that the committee members feel as though the work of the committee is not worthwhile.

- Greg explained that the versions of the UBAC committees that he has worked with previously always included a member from the CFO's office to be a conduit of communication going both ways.
- He also expressed that the committee would be updated with decisions and ideas for the University Budget.
- Greg also expressed that because of the process of creating the "University Budget" as a document it is hard for UBAC to see the specific document as it is being created in real time. More so, the CFO Representative would be informing the committee on an ongoing basis of decisions and implications of the budget as the year progressed.
- Drew Delaney pointed out that part of the structure of the committee makes it cumbersome to perform the duties of the committee including the size of the committee being one of the largest at the University, just scheduling meetings is very hard. Also, because the feedback from the Administration is sparse at best, the motivation to meet regularly is not very high amongst the members.
- Greg reiterated that the communication should be a two way street and a Faculty based financial advisory board is best practices for a University to make quality decisions even if the decisions are made by administrators and not the committees.
- Greg expressed that he would recommend to the new CFO that there needs to be a liaison with UBAC to improve communication.
- Tracey asked about the Auxiliary situation at UMW and that any request just adds to the fees that a student pays. Greg explained that right now at UMW, we aren't sure if the auxiliary fees that we require students to pay actually pays for the auxiliary departments such as Athletics and Student health.

UBAC Structure Discussion

There was a multi-person discussion following the conversations with Greg that highlighted the appropriate number of members for UBAC. Including a discussion on the need for the Ex-Officio position at all. Drew expressed that he and Scott Gerseny are representatives from Athletics as At-Large members but when you include Patrick Catullo as a required member, does that skew a discussion towards athletics? The idea was expressed to have 3 Faculty reps, 1 student rep, 1 CFO rep, 2 at large and 2 staff which would comprise a committee of 9 people. Following this suggestion there was more open discussion on who would be in the role of the Ex-officio because that is a non-voting member and therefore couldn't be a faculty member who is required to vote.

Drew ended the meeting and thanked everyone for their time.