

Budgets & Fiscal Planning

2013-2014 Annual Report

Date: July 24, 2014

To: Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Dan Edge, President

From: Budgets and Fiscal Planning Committee
Luke McIlvenny, Chair

Re: 2013-14 Annual Report

The Budgets & Fiscal Planning (B&FP) Committee for 2013-14 consisted of:

Luke McIlvenny, Chair '16	Business & Engineering Business Center
Deb Pence '14	Mechanical, Industrial, & Manufacturing Engr.
TBA (v. Loveland) '14	
Dorthe Wildenschild '15	Chemical, Biological & Environmental Engr.
Andrew Valls (v. Fermanich) '15	Political Science
Julie Elston '16	OSU-Cascades

Ex-Officio: Director of the Office of Budgets (Sherm Bloomer)
Executive Committee Liaison – Kevin Gable

As chair, McIlvenny was an ex-officio member of the University Budget Committee (UBC) and attended all Faculty Senate sessions. McIlvenny also participated in a UBC subcommittee reviewing a budget model proposal from Information Services on funding the campus network infrastructure. McIlvenny also served on the Academic Programs Committee that provided preliminary review of proposal and feedback to the authors prior to formally submitting their proposals for Faculty Senate review.

Much of the this year's activity was spent in reviewing proposals for academic program additions and changes, as well as a review of new budget models the University is looking at to possibly implement in the near future.

The major issues discussed by the committee were:

1. UNIVERSITY BUDGET ALLOCATION MODEL. Sherm Bloomer, ex-officio member of the B&FP Committee and the OSU Director of Budgets and Fiscal Planning, provided the committee with information on the current budget allocation model and possible changes to that model going forward. Much of the changes anticipated are around implementing a modified responsibility centered management (RCM). RCM couples decision-making authority with budget impacts, allowing decision makers to realize impacts from good financial decisions as well as those decisions that have a detrimental financial impact.

The B&FP Committee listened to the presentation provided by Director Bloomer and provided input and comments. The B&FP Committee has not been requested to review or recommend any or all of the possible aspects of an RCM budget model for OSU.

2. GRADUATE REMISSIONS. The committee received a presentation from Budget Director Bloomer on the state of graduate fee remissions at the University. The growth in remissions has led to a budget shortfall and the need to review the University policy on providing remissions to all graduate students on appointment on E&G funding from central resources. This issue dovetails with the RCM budget model – decision makers should realize financial impact from decisions they make that have financial consequences.
3. CATEGORY I PROPOSALS. The committee reviewed and recommended Category I proposals for the Graduate Certificate in Wildlife Management; renaming of Pharmaceutical Sciences; Accounting Certificate Program; M.S., M.Eng., PhD in Robotics; Graduate Certificate in Urban Forestry; B.S. in Bio Health Sciences – name change and administrative transfer; and a B.S./B.A. in Religious Studies.

The committee also reviewed a Category I proposal for a new program creating a PhD in Women, Gender and Sexual Studies. The committee was unable to recommend this program as there were serious questions regarding support and sustainability. The committee will take this up in the AY2014-2015 year.

Summary & Conclusions:

- The Faculty Senate should take an active interest in the evolving budget allocation model at OSU and the implications it may have on academic programs and faculty interests.
- Clarity needs to be provided as to the roles and responsibilities of the B&FP Committee as it pertains to review of academic proposals as well as general work/focus of the committee.
- A mechanism to attract and recruit members to Faculty Senate committees in general, and the B&FP Committee, in particular should be sought.
- Revisions and streamlining of the Category I budgeting process should occur now that OSU is no longer required to specifically follow OUS' policies and procedures.