

General Faculty Organization Meeting

January 8, 2009 4:00 pm, UW2 005

Chair: Dan Jaffe

Present: Annette Anderson, Cheryl Cooke, Steve Holland, Chuck Jackels, Pamela Joseph, Gray Kochhar Lindgren, Bruce Kochis, Mike Stiber, Kelvin Sung, and Carol Zander.

Guests: Marilyn Cox, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Planning; Kelly Snyder, Director, Public Relations and Communications and Marcia Killien, Secretary of the Faculty

Dan Jaffe, GFO Chair welcomed Marilyn Cox, Kelly Snyder and Marcia Killien. Marilyn opened discussion with an update on the UW Bothell budget. The state's revenue shortfall will have a considerable impact on UW Bothell's operating budget but we are committed to maintaining UWB's excellence and continuing to move forward on the 21st Century Campus Initiative. A Blackboard site has been launched as a communication tool for faculty and staff to stay informed and contribute ideas, input and suggestions as budgetary information becomes available from the State Legislature, UW and UWB administration, the Provost, Human Resources and other sources. The Chancellor will have ongoing Town Hall meetings to foster transparency and collaboration on budget issues and the GFO leadership will keep faculty informed on budget planning in the UWB Planning and Budget Committee. Marilyn is currently developing a template for budget planning that she will offer to programs to assist in structuring a budget. The 4.2% budget reduction for this year will be offset with tuition revenues. Enrollment growth remains a high priority, increased enrollment means increased revenues. The State Legislature will have a budget forecast in March, but the budget outcome will not be finalized until April or May. UWB will draft many contingency plans for budget planning, stressing that 100% enrollment will mitigate cuts. Federal funding may also help with the state's outlook on funding. Marilyn welcomes faculty input and suggestions through the Blackboard site and the Planning and Budget Committee.

Dan spoke with faculty regarding the new UWB Science and Technology unit at UWB, he, Chuck Jackels and Marcia Killien met with VCAA Jeffords about RCEP and naming the new unit. This is on ongoing process.

Kelly Snyder, new Director of Public Relations and Communications updated the faculty on legislative matters. Dan has focused on external relations in his role as GFO Chair, strengthening UWB's public relations and image. He is working with Kelly to carry the UWB "story" to Olympia along with students and fellow faculty. Two trips to Olympia are planned in February and March to talk with legislators about UWB's growth and how we are meeting regional needs academically through science and technology. Legislative meetings will be targeted to meet with members of the Higher Education Committee and the Community, Economic Development and Trade Committee and budgeting committees to present a consistent message that UWB is the answer to regional needs. Annette Anderson also extended an invitation to faculty to lend support and accompany her to meetings with the Higher Education Coordinating Board, faculty presence will send a strong message of support for UWB.

Dan asked the faculty for input in developing budgeting principles that GFO leadership can carry forward in budget planning and decision-making both at the university level and the UWB campus level. Dan serves on the UW Senate Committee for Planning and Budget which advises the Provost, this

committee has discussed guiding principles for responding to the budget cuts, with protecting students, the quality of teaching, research and service as highest priorities. What guiding principles should GFO leadership use to advise the administration at UWB?

GFO discussion

- We can look at these challenges as opportunities - reorganize and improve.
- Keep in mind that we will resume growth after the biennium.
- How can we be creative in funding options? Education and Nursing have summer programs that bring in tuition revenues. There is net revenue returns from Educational Outreach back to UWB for courses offered over Summer Quarter. To be profitable, we need to increase our enrollment to 100%.
- There are organizations and companies that have inquired about specific training and certificate programs that subsidize tuition.
- UWB is planning to run a strong campaign next year for private fund raising.
- Our budget challenges could become teaching models, for example, we could use the Blackboard site in classrooms to look at how to deal with financial difficulties and strategic planning.
- Increased enrollment would put faculty beyond teaching capacity, do we hire contingency faculty if we continue to grow beyond our current capacity?

Discussion to consider in developing priorities for decision-making around the budget

- 1. Students first
- 2. Preserve jobs
- 3. Treat as an opportunity - reorganize and improve
- 4. Discretion at the program level on budget prioritizing and decision making
- 5. Grow summer programs (need clarity on revenue policies)
- 6. Creative revenue generation - fee based programs, employer subsidized programs, certificate programs
- 7. Voluntary fund - faculty could contribute to fund to preserve jobs and for students

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm

Minutes submitted by Barbara Van Sant