

**May 4, 2005, 1:00 pm., UW2 327**

**Present:** Andrea Kovalesky, Kevin Laverty, Jim Miller, Clark Olson, Bill Seaburg, Jane Van Galen and Linda Watts

Kevin called this EC meeting to assess GFO priorities in the budget building process. He presented the Revenue Forecast Early Draft for FY 2005-06 to EC showing the total funding increases for the General Operating Fund for permanent and temporary funding. EC discussion on the overview of funding requests identified some important issues:

- The EC directed Kevin to request a policy discussion on the percentage of the total budget devoted to academics and how this percentage appears to be less than that of UWT or UWS. For example, instruction at UWB is 44.4% of the budget, versus 53.7% at UWT. When "learning resources are added, the percentages are 55.8% at UWB and 61.3% at UWT.
- The EC's general priorities are academic issues, students and campus safety.
- Requests by the Finance Committee on equipment replacement and departmental decisions on equipment replacement should be prioritized by those with the critical information to assess those needs.
- Some felt that existing programs that have not been addressed sufficiently within the budget and should be given priority. Academic advisors within each department have not kept pace with enrollments, is this an equity disparity or proportionality issue across the campus? How can this be resolved on a budgetary level?
- The TLC has the support of the EC to be sustained as a permanent budget allocation.
- A high priority for EC support is funding support for faculty research.

One of the mechanisms currently under consideration to support research is the Office of Research Support. The EC also sees other options, including a research quarter stacking option for faculty and a teaching assistant program.

Several budget requests would build "infrastructure" for the campus, these include: The TLC, The Office of Research Support (called the Office of Sponsored Programs in prior proposals) and the Center for Civic Engagement.

The EC will set budgetary priorities based on the 5-for-5 initiatives and weigh which budget requests work to benefit the campus and support these initiatives.

One of the ideas that the EC would like to explore to build the culture of research at UWB is to fund a part-time grant writer, possibly under the TLC to support all faculty research (it was noted the proposed Center for Civic Engagement would include UWB's first dedicated grant writer).

Some feel that any new degree programs should be funded in the order that they were approved, e.g. the CSS Master of Science in Computer and Software Systems would have first consideration before the MACS program.

Next EC meeting will be Monday, May 9, 2005.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Van Sant