
Others Attending: Lauren Adamson, Bill Fritz, Steve Kaminshine, Michael Metzler, Robert Moore, Bill Prigge, Edgar Torbert

Minutes of January 28 were approved as presented.

Dr. Henry reported the FY2005 budget meeting with Board of Regents staff would be March 11. He commented that the area-of-focus proposals would be received prior to this meeting so that some information about these could be shared with the Board of Regents staff. Dr. Henry indicated continuing concern that there may be an additional 1% cut of $1.6M with only $0.4M available centrally to offset this amount. He pointed out that 12 days remained in the legislative session, which would be spread over 3 weeks, and would likely result in the FY2005 budget being approved prior to the April meeting of the Board of Regents. He stated that tuition increases would also be addressed at the April meeting.

Dr. Henry reminded that the voluntary 5% budget reductions by colleges and vice presidential areas had netted $4.4M for reallocation in FY2005.

Vice President for Development Budget Review Team

Dr. Kaminshine presented the report of the Vice President for Development budget review team. He announced that on the basis of extensive discussions with Ms. Peterman and an external evaluation, the review team recommended no cuts.

Vice President for External Affairs Budget Review Team

Dr. Jacobs presented the report of the Vice President for External Affairs budget review team. He announced that the review team recommended cutting two unfilled positions ($58.6K).

Vice President for Research Budget Review Team

Dr. Tai presented the report of the Vice President for Research budget review team. He announced that the review team recommended no cuts. He commented that the division had fallen behind the rest of the university as the budget grew and sustained losses of staff due to higher pay at other institutions, such as Georgia Tech. He noted the probable loss of ETACT funding in FY2005 as another problem.

College of Law Budget Review Team

Dr. Huss presented the report of the College of Law budget review team. He announced that the review team recommended no cuts, although there might be an opportunity for future savings by utilizing IS&T resources for instructional technology.
Dr. Hudson presented the report of the University Library budget review team. He announced that the review team recommended no cuts for the University Library. He pointed to inflation as the primary budgetary problem for the library. Dr. Henry injected that acquisitions and faculty positions had been excluded from the amounts subject to cuts for both the University Library and the College of Law Library.

Dr. Huss made a motion to accept the recommendations of the budget review teams. Ms. Bradley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dr. Henry noted two additional areas to be considered, the Child Development Center and the Alpharetta Center. He reminded that the Child Development Center had undergone prior shifts from state funds to user fees resulting in the current budget being $518K state funds and $455K user fees. He suggested a 5% cut in state funds as a starting point for discussion with some offset to cover salary increases.

Dr. Huss asked about benchmarking user fees. Dr. Henry replied that the fees were lower than those at competitors, although competitors were generally child care, rather than development, centers. Mr. Rackliffe estimated the fees to be 5-10% lower than market. Dr. Kaminshine commented on the history of the center as a provider of priority services for students. Dr. Henry remarked that statistics were needed on faculty/staff versus student use.

Dr. Hudson pointed out that the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee had addressed expansion of child care services. He questioned the reduction of funding from a political standpoint with only $26K saved. Dr. Henry commented that increasing efficiency of the operation of the Child Development Center was a potential objective since expansion would require a heavy investment. Dr. Hudson reiterated the impact on students of increased user fees. Dr. Adamson suggested a sliding scale for user fees. She also noted the broad-based need for more child care services around the university.

Dr. Henry explained that the Alpharetta Center had been separated from the Robinson College of Business for these considerations, and suggested increasing user fees (classroom rents) to offset a cut in state funding. He noted that Georgia Perimeter College was the major user. Mr. Rackliffe indicated that a 10% increase in user fees was already planned. Dr. Henry recommended a 5% cut, which would produce $19K. Dr. Huss asked if the user fees would be used to offset the cut. Dr. Henry affirmed this would be the case.

Dr. Henry added that the Board of Regents centers (e.g., Regents’ Testing Program) would be assessed 7.5% cuts in the total amount of $32K. He tallied the redirection amount at $4.5M given all of the above.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
Approved March 25, 2004