
Others Attending: Lauren Adamson, Bill Fritz, Beth Jones, Mike Metzler, Bill Prigge, Edgar Torbert

The minutes of September 26 were approved.

FY2008 budget update

Dr. Rackliffe distributed “Schedule of Total SCH to Plateau SCH, Fiscal Years 2007 & 2008” showing unpaid credit hours above the tuition plateau accounted for 77% of the overall increase in credit hours from fall 2006 to fall 2007 and 36% of the increase from summer 2006 to summer 2007. Dr. Rackliffe pointed out that the fixed-for-four program encourages students to take heavier course loads, which compounds the negative revenue impact as students take more unpaid credit hours, which are in turn not rewarded by 100% pass-through workload dollars.

Dr. Rackliffe distributed “Schedule of CBSAC Sources and Uses, Fiscal Year 2008” showing original budget FC50 funds of $1.7M and targeted FACP contingency funds of $5.6M being used for Citizens Trust office renovations, Classroom South classroom renovations, related unit relocations, and streetscaping projects. He added that the streetscaping costs represented the 20% university share with the remaining 80% in federal funding.

Dr. Rackliffe distributed “Budget Considerations-Fund Code 10 General Funds, Fiscal Year 2008” showing a net balance of $334K. He cautioned that the balance assumed no return of ORP savings to the state treasury.

Dr. Henry invited discussion of the allocation of contingency funds. Dr. Hudson alluded to his e-mail to FACP members concerning the use of contingency funds for CBSAC projects. He emphasized that his argument was not against CBSAC projects, but a call for a broader review of funding needs. He noted the areas of focus had primarily strengthened sciences and that the same was needed for humanities and other areas of the university. He suggested $500K for the library (humanities data sets, etc.) and $500K for enrollment services areas as alternative uses for the contingency funds.

Dr. Rackliffe expressed agreement concerning the enrollment services needs, but questioned whether funds were needed in FY2008 or FY2009. Dr. Fritz responded that FY2008 funding was probably adequate, but that assurance of FY2009 funding was needed early in FY2008 in order to proceed with timely hiring and programming.

Dr. Tai commented that the library had needs relating to the growth in enrollment as well as research. He reminded that funding would be needed for offices for new faculty positions. He asked about potential savings on renovations in Citizens Trust. Dr. Rackliffe replied that the Citizens Trust renovations were mainly carpet and paint at approximately $40 per square foot, since IS&T was funding connectivity. Dr. Henry added that the only non-basic renovation costs...
were for soundproofing the counseling center offices as required for privacy.

Dr. Huss recommended deferring a decision on additional funding for the library until Ms. Hurt could make a presentation to FACP on current needs. Dr. Henry recalled that $375K was needed for acquisitions in order to keep pace with inflation. He stated that Ms. Hurt would be asked to present an update to FACP. Dr. Hudson stated that a thorough analysis of library needs was available. Dr. Adamson observed that one-time funding for data sets presented a dilemma because of on-going subscription costs. She added that the data set needs were not only in humanities.

Dr. Huss asked if an initial allocation of $375K against the projected balance was in order. Dr. Henry replied one-time dollars were needed this year, but continuing funds would be needed as well as noted by Dr. Adamson. Dr. Hudson reiterated the importance of addressing these needs as a research university. Dr. Tai asked if the savings from the first-year free warranty for the telephony system could be diverted to the library. Dr. Rackliffe responded that these were the funds, which had been used for the connectivity costs for Citizens Trust.

Dr. Alberto asked about the holdings threatened by inflation. Dr. Hudson replied that inflation primarily affected serials. Dr. Henry added that the library was seeking funds for renewals plus a few new data sets. Dr. Adamson noted that the data sets generally involved a five-year agreement.

Dr. Tai made a motion to recommend commitment of $375K from the projected budget balance to the library to offset inflation. Dr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dr. Henry commented that if the streetscaping projects did not commence prior to June 30, 2008, there would be additional contingency funds for the library and other needs.

Dr. Tai asked for further discussion of the faculty offices options. Dr. Henry noted there was office space in the proximity of CollabTech in the SunTrust annex, but there was an issue with using state funds for renovations, because the building does not belong to the university. He added that availability of space in the SunTrust buildings could change in the event another bank bought SunTrust. Dr. Henry pointed to Citizens Trust with some lessees opting to leave early, the Counseling Center Building as swing space, and the Courtland Building as other potential faculty office sites. He indicated a plan for faculty offices would be developed in the next six weeks.

Dr. Hudson asked about ventilation problems in the Counseling Center Building. Dr. Henry replied that MRRF dollars were available to replace HVAC systems in the building starting June 1, 2008, but that the project would not be completed prior to fall 2008.

Dr. Tai asked about leasing an additional floor at 34 Peachtree Street. Dr. Henry responded that a short-term lease would be too expensive.

**Prorated mandatory student fees**

Dr. Henry invited discussion of extending the prorated mandatory student fees for graduate students taking fewer than six credit hours to undergraduates. Dr. Rackliffe distributed “Pro-rated
Student Fee Review, Summary of Policy Effects” showing a dollar effect of only $375K and a percentage effect of only 5.15% on fee revenues. He noted that the Board of Regents received many complaints about the current policy of charging 100% fees for students taking only one course. Dr. Henry added that the number of fee payment incidents would be rising with enrollment growth, which would also offset these losses. Dr. Fritz commented that the current policy was significant customer service issue.

Dr. Huss made a motion to recommend extending the prorated mandatory student fees for students taking fewer than six credit hours to undergraduates. Dr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed. Dr. Rackliffe noted the change would take effect fall 2008.

Other business

Dr. Henry indicated that Ms. Hurt would be asked to make a presentation at the next meeting.

Dr. Rackliffe distributed copies of a preliminary site plan for special interest and freshman housing at Piedmont and Edgewood.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
Approved November 7, 2007