FISCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE PRESIDENT
Minutes of April 20, 2011


Others Attending: Lauren Adamson, J.L. Albert, Fenwick Huss, Beth Jones, Robert Moore, Carmen Newton, Tim Renick, Nan Seamans, Jowanna Tillman, Edgar Torbert

The minutes of March 9, 2011, were approved as distributed.

Faculty Promotion Raises

Dr. Rackliffe presented the proposed faculty promotion raise rules for FY2012, specifically to allow colleges to supplement the centrally funded, percentage-by-rank raises with college funds up to a total of 15%. Dr. Adamson asked if adjustments could be made for those promoted when the cap was 10% or less. Dr. Rackliffe replied that University System salary administration rules would only allow such adjustments in years with a salary raise pool.

Dr. Kaminshine made a motion to recommend the faculty promotion raise cap as 15% for FY2012. Dr. Kelley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

FY2012 Allocations

Dr. Rackliffe reported the FY2012 allocations for Georgia State were as expected with the exception of omission of the payback bonds-related transfer of $323K for G Deck. He stated that preliminary analysis of the allocations showed a net outcome of plus-or-minus $1M for Georgia State.

University Strategic Plan Funding Decisions

Dr. Rackliffe distributed handouts listing the University Strategic Plan initiatives discussed at the implementation retreats held with deans, chairs, faculty and staff and the Z-score rankings of the initiatives as prioritized by those retreat groups. Dr. Rackliffe suggested that given the limited amount of available funds for FY2012 that FACP focus on the top 13 ranked initiatives and select three or four of these for FY2012 funds. He also noted some of the top 13 ranked initiatives had been addressed through the strategic graduate enrollment package already recommended for funding by FACP or were primarily fundraising objectives outside the state funds budget.
Dr. Alberto asked about the projected expenditures for the School of Public Health initiative. Dr. Kelley cited faculty lines for concentrations required for a PhD program and infrastructure needs.

Mr. Dutton pointed to the initiative increasing the number of academic advisors as a high priority for students as well as the initiatives relating to increased numbers of scholarships. Dr. Alberto commented that progressing from the current 700-to-1 ratio of students to advisors to a ratio of 300-to-1 would be a multi-year endeavor. Dr. Renick estimated $2-3M would be needed to achieve this goal.

Dr. Kaminshine observed that the relatively small amount of available funds would have a bearing on allocation decisions since some initiatives would require a substantial amount in order to show detectable progress. He urged that the allocations be made in ways that maximized impact. Dr. Rackliffe added that the allocations should be viewed as down payments. Dr. Willoughby noted the importance of starting implementation now to show the University Strategic Plan is guiding funding decisions.

Dr. Hudson spoke for allocating funds for library acquisitions with reference to FACP discussions of the last 10-15 years about dependence on end-of-year sweep funds and the presentation to the University Senate by Dr. Seamans. Dr. Willoughby mentioned discussions by the Board of Regents about reducing library holdings. She also advocated allocating funds to initiatives that impact students, such as the library, assistantships and advisors.

Dr. Rackliffe suggested each member list five initiatives to be funded and then use this poll to determine what to fund. The poll showed strongest support for: (1) Library; (2) Honors College; (3) advisers; (4) GTAs; and (5) research administration support. It was agreed these initiatives would be presented to Dr. Becker as recommended targets for FY2012 allocations.

Voluntary Separation Program

Dr. Rackliffe reported the response to-date to the Voluntary Separation Program as follows: 151 employees and $6.3M.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
Approved May 11, 2011