

**University of Utah
Faculty Budget and Planning Advisory Committee
Annual Report
2010-2011**

1. **Committee Membership:** Susie Beck, Connie Bullis, Kent Lai, Nancy Lombardo (chair), Bob Nelson, Diane Nicholson Marlene Plumlee, Terry Ring

2. **Meetings:**

October 28, 2010 - FBPAC - Meet with Paul Brinkman, 3:00 PM Park 302E

An overview of the current budget problems was presented. Compensation is the administration's top priority this year. They will try to get funding from the state for an increase. A 1% increase costs the University about \$2 million. If the state does not increase its share, tuition is the only source for compensation increases.

Mission Based Funding - This is the new model for higher ed in their approach to the legislature. It is a 2 part request at this point, with a total of \$23 million being requested. half of that will be requested as a way to cover enrollment growth. Rationale will be increases in levels of instruction, number of students, tuition rates, etc. The other half will be targeted to address three major goals of the Regents for higher ed.

1. Increase student participation (higher enrollments)
2. Improve completion rates (graduates)
3. Enhance economic development

Paul asked the committee to meet with he and Dave Pershing in November.

November 30, 2010 - FBPAC - Meet with Dave Pershing and Paul Brinkman, 3:00 PM Park 105

The administration is still committed to some salary raises this year (since there have been no raises in the last two years). Raises at the U will probably be based on "retention and equity" method, not across the board raises. If there are no budget cuts, the expectation is that tuition will be increased by 4-5%. If there are budget cuts that could go as high as 8-9%, but there will not be double-digit increases.

The U is moving ahead on the budget model changes, with funding for graduation rates, to benefit both undergraduate and graduate programs.

Finally, there was some discussion regarding the next steps for the committee.

April 4, 2011 – FBPAC - Meet with Dave Pershing and Paul Brinkman, 4:00 PM Park 105

There will be 2% budget cuts this year. Tuition will be raised 7.8%. It is hoped that this will be the last large tuition increase for the next few years. There will be more attention paid to completion rates in the funding model and the U does well there, relative to other state institutions. However, the U may make acceptance more selective to improve retention rates.

The 202 Higher Ed plan out of the Governor's office was discussed. Very ambitious goals are presented there. Not clear how the U could accommodate that growth.

2% cuts this year were managed primarily by administrative salary cuts and tuition increases. Hope for a better economy next year.

3. Considerations: The focus of the committee this academic year was to advise the administration on how the budget cuts from the previous years were impacting departments and where future cuts should apply, if needed. The committee maintained a meeting schedule and found the administrators to be very interested in hearing their views. We appreciated the value placed on our feedback. Dave Pershing and Paul Brinkman were always ready to meet with the committee as soon as new information was received from the legislature. With Paul Brinkman's retirement, the committee is hopeful that Paul Brinkman's replacement will be as receptive to the committee as he has been over the years.

4. Recommendations

The FBPAC recommends that this committee:

- continue its regular meeting schedule with appropriate vice presidents, but in particular with Dave Pershing and Kathy Anderson (incoming VP for Finance), in order to ensure that the faculty voice continues to be heard as the University endures the continuation of this challenging economy
- receive further information on the plans, implementations and savings enacted by the Efficiency Task Force, headed by Steve Hess (former VP for IT, CIO)
- be utilized in a pro-active way to help shape the plans for any budget shortfalls resulting from previous years' cuts
- be utilized in a pro-active way to help shape the message to the public and the legislature regarding how these cuts are impacting the University faculty
- continue to emphasize the need for budget transparency as difficult budgetary challenges are managed