

BUDGET COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 28, 2009  
MINUTES

Present: John Oester (Chair), Isabella Chung (Resource), MD Haque (Resource), Marilyn Ingram (AFT Classified), Eloise Crippens (Academic Senate), Helen Lin (Academic Affairs), Brandy Ruiz (ASO Treasurer), Matt Robertson (AFT Faculty), Olga Shewfelt (AFT Faculty), Hansel Tsai (Resource), Abel Rodriguez (SEIU), Betsy Regalado (VP, Student Services)

I. Minutes for December 17, 2008 were approved.

II. Discussion

- There is no new information from Sacramento as the budget impasse continues.
- The \$815-billion economic stimulus bill that passed a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives on Jan. 28 is likely to offer some tremendous funding opportunities for the community colleges. Under the stimulus bill, California could receive \$21.5 billion. The largest chunk of funding, \$8 billion, would come to the state through the Fiscal Stabilization Fund, 61% of which would be dedicated to K-16 to spend over two years. Higher education is being directed to use the money to mitigate the need to raise tuition and fees for California resident students. A total of \$6 billion for construction projects for colleges and universities would be funded under the Modernization, Renovation and Repair provision. The bill includes money for an increase in Pell Grants. The bill would also add \$490 million to College Work-Study programs across the country to support an additional 200,000 undergraduate and graduate students who work.

II. Handout and discussion of Deficit Reduction Plan

Operating Statement:

- Anticipated deficit for the current fiscal year is about \$1.2 million. This is \$1.8 million less than the previous projection. The cancellation of over 200 winter and spring sections played a major role in the reduction of the deficit. Further section cancellations are expected, which might lower the deficit even further. Moreover, if the state avoids a mid-year budget cut, the deficit could be reduced by an additional \$1.15 million.

Discussion of the email from the President and the Budget Management Plan  
Approved by the College Council Executive Committee:

- There is a purchase freeze on both general and restricted funds. All purchases will need prior approval from the VPAS. The VPAS will disapprove and return all incidental general fund reimbursement requests by college employees for office and work-related items. All 10100 account general fund purchases, no matter how small, must be made through the purchase order

system and only with the express advance approval of the VPAS. Anyone purchasing items outside of the district's purchase order system will be held personally liable for any expense incurred.

- A travel freeze is also in place. Travel requests are being reviewed item by item to assess the need for the travel.
- There is a strict hiring freeze in place. In addition, no overtime will be allowed without prior approval of the VPAS.
- Presidential set-aside fund is being frozen and all projects are going to be closed out without further expenditures.
- Over-budget restrictions are in place. Any unit, department, program, or cost center that is over its allocated annual budget as determined by the VPAS will not be allowed to continue expenditures.
- The reduction of planned sections for spring 2009 continues. All sections below an enrollment of 15 students on the Tuesday evening before the Monday start of the spring semester, in this case, Tuesday, February 3, 2009, at 5:00pm, will be cancelled. The normal Summer I session beginning in June will be eliminated. In 2009, there will be a single six-week summer session that begins on Monday, July 6, and ends on August 16.
- The college is changing its parking approach effective spring 2009. All students/visitors will have to pay for parking. Student parking decals are \$20 for spring and fall sessions and \$7 for summer and winter sessions. Every student and visitor must have either a parking decal applicable to that academic session or pay \$1 for a daily parking permit placed in their vehicle's front window. Machines dispensing the daily parking permits for \$1 will soon be installed on each floor of the parking structure and in lots 3, 5, 7, and 8A. In addition, effective with the start of the spring semester, on February 6, all on-street parking will be eliminated. Parking may occur only in parking lots and the parking structure. Revenue anticipated from parking is expected to increase by around \$80,000 this year and \$175,000 in a full year.

III. Mr. Oester mentioned that Dr. Rocha, Mr. Sprague, and he met with Cassidy & Associates, the consulting firm employed by the District to pursue District interests in Washington. The discussion centered on how the college might be able to benefit from the Federal stimulus package making its way through Congress. Olga Shewfelt asked about the preliminary ideas discussed in that meeting. Mr. Oester replied that, in general, the stimulus package was about the creation of jobs and Dr. Rocha and the VP's exchanged ideas with Cassidy about further development of the Watson center, Allied Health, Green Technology, and Distance Learning programs for Veterans.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in Winlock.