

University Budget Committee  
Minutes  
December 11, 2014

University Budget Committee began at 12:40 pm. The minutes were read and approved. A new member, Lena Bryant from the College of Business, was introduced and welcomed. We discussed the dates for the budget hearings. All are invited. Edmundo sent letters to the vice presidents and will send a second one as a reminder.

**Larry Pinkerton**

- Asked if we attended the town hall meeting.
- Discussed the financial climate of the state
- Implied the budget may be reduced and he is not sure if the new governor will “re up” the income tax.
- Indicated we are not in a *new money environment* and it will be less than what we had been given. The concern was how much less.
- Questioned if we had the right process in place to deal with this issue.
- Wanted to know how we will adjust the budget process to deal with this concern.

**Edmundo Garcia**

- Discuss process
- Indicated perhaps this could occur just with reallocations of funds.
- Asked what happens after the president reviews the budget submission

**L. Pinkerton** indicated that the Operation Team reviews the requests and factor them in what *will or will not be* included in the revenue stream. He asked if we should operate as though it is business as usual or should we tweet this process as the result of the upcoming budget information. He said the VP’s need to know how to address the current FY climate. Actually wanted to know how we *as the Budget Committee* could help the VP’s deal with this concern or information in their reports.

A member asked whether the VP’s and president consider what UBC says *anyway*.

**L. Pinkerton** said the University does operate on shared governance.

Still many questioned how much UBC's opinions mattered. Case in point is how last year, some VP's presentations were poorly done, if at all, which may show how much voice UBC has in the budget decision-making process.

**L. Pinkerton** said that many times when the VP's are bringing forth request to UBC, we do not have a full picture of revenue information. The recommendations, projection of enrollment and state appropriation all play a part in the funding decisions.

**E. Garcia** stated we cannot prevent or stop the recommendations.

**L. Pinkerton** stated that individuals expressed frustrations in trying to comply with budget requests especially in a climate of only *reallocation* by the University.

**Rohan** stated that even so we as a committee cannot stop the process of innovation; perhaps there may be alternative reviews. He wanted to know if Pinkerton was suggesting to the committee what direction we should take , *what we should do*. He wanted to know what additional information will be provided to the committee.

**L. Pinkerton** stated that the members of UBC are valued. He wanted some thoughts on how things can be made better. He suggested that subcommittees might be aligned with the current climate.

**Rohan** asked if they would be subverting the PME process.

**Robin Hawkins** asked , how does the committee consider cuts and what needs to be cut?

**L. Pinkerton** suggested the UBC could play a larger role in helping the University with its concern of capturing ideas and ways of reducing expenses, thereby functioning more efficiently.

**Rohan:** what would be your model?

**Latrice Eggleston** : Ask VP what can be cut because are not "all knowing". Is this an expanded role for UBC?

Someone asked if Pinkerton was asking for a process at a lower level.

**Barbara** asked what per cent is tied to staff.

**L. Pinkerton** stated about 70% .

**E. Garcia** stated he does not want the committee to be manipulated, but we are willing to help. There were questions and concerns about the administration's motive.

**Sandy** asked about the Westside project. Where is that money coming from?

**L. Pinkerton** stated that the state has approved only capital dollars, not the operating dollars.

Someone asked if the University was using the Westside campus to increase enrollment growth>

**E. Garcia** stated that the committee needed to make a decision on two proposals:

One, to agree or not to agree to expand the functions of UBC to act as an advising team, then work on a procedure for it.

Two, to have an opportunity for UBC to provide its own perspective about the fiscal challenge, to embrace ideas that the U. leadership can consider to navigate through this climate, and make a general recommendation about this less money issue.

We need to review the bylaws

Robin stated that she does not know how this can be done.

**L. Pinkerton** stated that the idea is to generate "thought-provoking" discussions about how this should be done.

It was suggested that UBC continue to provide input to the administration. It was also suggested that a draft document be presented to the committee that will capture its ideas and any PME concerns.

Nothing was resolved.

The meeting ended at 2:35pm,