CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION (COBRA)
Minutes of the COBRA Meeting, Friday, October 7, 2011

Members Present: Hongwei Du, Kris Erway, Don Gailey, Pat Jennings, Gary McBride, Carol Reese, Alene Saules, Peg Winkelman, Meiling Wu (Chairperson), Helen Zong,

Members Absent: Jim Mitchell

Discussions

1. Election of a COBRA Secretary - Hongwei Du

2. Approval of the agenda - Approved

3. Report of the Chair – Website and attached documents

   *Agreed with Chair to invite the university division representatives to COBRA

   *Gary McBride asked that the committee be provided with comparison numbers to other years and other campuses in order to do analysis and make recommendations- same columns and line items ideal- allows committee to pose questions such as, identifying the sources of revenue.

   *Committee agreed with Chair that if committee is not provided a report and/or contact person is unable to present and explain the information- committee will contact Senate Chair

   *Chair suggested that committee provide each invited presenter with questions and suggested format in advance of COBRA meeting

   * Chair volunteers to be included to UPABC and will seek opportunity to allow COBRA members to sit in the meetings.

4. Report of the Presidential Appointees (Kris Erway, University Budget Officer and Carol Reese, Senior Director of Budget and Resources for Academic Affairs)

   Kris points out that CSU East Bay Sources are strictly based on student fee and state support. Average unit load went fewer students taking more classes. The Ed. Doc fee also included. Clarified 59.3% from student fees. Carol Reese also pointed out that documents need to show more than one year. Carol Reese will send URL for BUNSIS – different interpretations of the model. Kris Erway reminds committee that General Fund now called Operating Fund, lots of other fund sources (i.e. parking, housing, etc.). Kris doesn’t know if IRA fee going away?
• Chair questions fees being raised without informing COBRA or program- Kris reminds COBRA committee that there is a whole committee on fees.
• Carol suggests that chair take concerns to Provost or Mike M.
• Chair prefers to take concern to Senate
• Question about A2 E2 committee organization and time table?
• Gary Mc Bride suggests- Let’s ask for information- revenue and allocation- What would really be significant to faculty? For instance, what does academic affairs include? Colleges, library, research, provost, ABGS? 3 presidents in 6 years lots of reorg… IT still isn’t settled. Same division names but different configurations- expenditures are reported to Chancellor’s office… colleges centralized or decentralize so departments expenditures aren’t all recorded the same way.
• Reviewed 2011-12 Centrally Administered and Allocation by Division with Benefits slides
• Kris clarifies that funding for instruction comes out of Academic Affairs
• Budget reduction of 100 million should be covered this year- don’t know if it is a one year or permanent cut.
• Board of Trustees Request 2012-13 CSU Support Budget $315 M

5. Review the policies and procedures for committee operation.

• Chair acknowledges the resources that Kris and Carol provide.
• Revenue Sources and line item costs- Where can we make a difference?
• Lay out of salaries? And look at student enrollment… Gary suggests observations and correlations of financial reports in order to make recommendations and spreading information to campus communities. Pat suggests to review the 3-year allocation report on administrators’ salaries.
• Carol- Parameters of Model other processes going on - How do we get funded for FTS count?
• Arlene- If we have no control over compensation- what’s the point?
• Kris- Interesting ratios appear that COBRA can question and make recommendations
• Carol -What part would this committee play in faculty participation in fiscal planning? (question to Provost)
• Gary- doing homework first- what info is or is not available? COBRA is a different faculty governance body from the Union. COBRA’s role- getting and disseminating information- persuasive power
• Carol- Debbie makes presentation on Operational Budget (a snapshot) NOT work study, or IRA

6. Review the 2010-11 Annual COBRA Report (move to next meeting 10/21)

7. Discussion of people to invite to present to COBRA in 2011-12

For next Meeting- Carole will contact Provost and to look for total compensation data for faculty and others, broken down details by college, total enrollment over the past 3 years, and further examination funding Sources for Research.
8. General discussion

Move (Don Gailey, 2nd Peg Winkelman) to make primary function of COBRA Committee
Duties and Organization (2A4)

Don Gailey moved that we resolve in the coming year to focus our activities on acting as a
"recommending" body rather than just a "consulting" body, as provided for in our Policies
and Procedures document, paragraph 2A.

9. Adjournment