CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Approved Minutes

Date: 3/12/14

Members Present: David Bowen (Science), Lonny J. Aui Brooks (CLASS), Dennis Chester (CLASS), Ching-Lih Jan (CBE), Nancy Mangold (CBE, COBRA Chair), Aline Soules (Library), Paulina Van (Science), Nancy White (CEAS)

Members Absent: Monique Cornelius (Budget, Presidential Appointee), Ardella Dailey (CEAS), Audrey Katzman (Academic Affairs, Presidential Appointee)

Guests: Endre Branstad (Academic Senate), Bridget Ford (History), Sophie Rollins (Academic Senate), Mitch Watnik (Academic Senate)

1. Approval of the Agenda
   a. MS: Soules, Jan.

2. Approval of Minutes
   a. MS: Bowen, Brooks. Meeting minutes from 2/26/14 were approved.

3. Report of the Chair
   a. Mangold reported that Bridget Ford, a faculty member from History, is here today to speak about classroom facilities. Jim Zavagno will be invited to a future meeting to discuss planning of capital projects. A financial aid representative and the Foundation AVP will be invited to future meetings as well. Brad Wells will come to a meeting in Spring 2014 to discuss forecasting of the budget. We have a full agenda for the Spring quarter.

4. Report of the Presidential Appointee
   a. No report.

5. Report of the Subcommittees
   a. No report.

6. Business Items
   a. Discussion of campus improvements – Bridget Ford from History is working with a Promising Course Redesign Grant from the Chancellor’s Office. Over 2,000 students take US History every year at CSUEB. Every student at CSUEB needs the course to graduate. The course is a bottleneck, or stumbling block, with a high rate of students failing every year across the CSU system. At CSUEB last year 258 students (13%) of the students enrolled in the class failed. There is a 22% failure rate across the CSU system. Ford and her colleagues would like to see improvements in the Meiklejohn large classrooms where this course is taught. Some of the problems that need to be addressed include:
      i. Acoustics – concrete floors, difficult to hear students.
      ii. Wi-Fi – not available
      iii. Screens – far away, not well placed, not enough
      iv. Projector- blurry, not high definition
      v. Outlet wiring – needed so students can plug-in and recharge devices during 2-hour class meetings
      vi. Lighting and workspace – improved lighting and usable workspace is needed
      vii. Whiteboards – needed on side walls

   Soules suggested raising the issue with Jim Zavagno that facility designers need to design classrooms more in keeping with current teaching practices (team-based, interactive, project-
based). Ford met with Zavagno yesterday when he went to the classroom. Zavagno expressed the desire to hear from more faculty concerned about the issue. Watnik mentioned the President’s statements during the convocation about rethinking pedagogy. Changes need to be made in facilities to enable new pedagogies.

Members discussed adding issues about classroom improvements to the COBRA proposal on Building Development and Use, or writing a resolution regarding large classrooms on campus. The resolution could state that attention needs to be paid to large classrooms where mega-sections are taught. To accommodate changing pedagogies and large classes, improvements are needed for CSUEB facilities.

Van suggested partnering with another powerful group to get the issue moved forward, and add more weight to the discussion. ITAC could be asked to endorse the proposal. She supports a request for repair, renovation and upgrades of large classroom.

There was discussion about various methods for moving a recommendation forward, whether the matter should be sent through by COBRA or written by Ford and attached to a COBRA resolution. Ideas also included a survey of other teachers using the large classrooms, or obtaining data from Martha Wallace in Academic Scheduling about room use.

The decision was made for Soules to write a resolution and send it out to COBRA for suggested changes in wording or content. A second draft will be sent out by Mangold for a vote. Ford will email Wallace to get information about faculty teaching in Meiklejohn Room 2032 and Room 2064. Ford will send her statement of need to those faculty members for comment.

b. Access to MOUs draft. There was discussion about the wording used in the COBRA MOU Proposal written by Soules. She will email revisions to COBRA, Branstad and Rollins for discussion and approval. University Extension is the term that needs to be used rather than DCIE.

c. Discussion of COBRA Summary Report to the Senate on the University Expenses and Revenues report through 12/31/13 by VP Brad Wells. Mangold has completed the revised summary and will ask Audrey to check the numbers. COBRA members would like changes made before the report is sent to Ex-Com, with the same color being used consistently throughout the pie charts to represent a specific revenue or expense. The final form will be presented to COBRA at the next meeting for approval. There will be a summary from Wells at the beginning. To improve clarity in the report the words “University Extension” will be placed next to the label Cont Ed Fund in parentheses.

7. Adjournment

a. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:10 p.m.