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

Minutes of the Meeting of January 19, 2007 (Approved)

Members Present: Dana Edwards, Kris Erway, Karina Garbesi (Chair), Armando Gonzales, Jose Lopez, Nancy Mangold, Saied Motavalli, Sue Opp, James Petrillo, Melany Spielman

Members Absent: Steve Ugbah

Visitors: Bill Dines, Mark Karplus, Don Sawyer, Bruce Trumbo

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved with no changes or additions. M/S Opp/Gonzales

2. Approval of the Minutes of 12-1-06

The minutes were approved with corrections. M/S Opp/Spielman

3. Chair’s Report

Garbesi discussed a meeting with President Qayoumi at the beginning of the Winter Quarter. The President shared information about the CMS budget, and has asked others to provide further details in future. John Charles will provide a detailed report at the February 2 COBRA meeting. The President reported that he has been informed that the “Library Loan” of approximately 2.65M has been forgiven. However, this good news is tempered by the fact that Administration and Business Affairs incurred a 2.4 M debt last year, which went unreported. Much of the forgiven amount was planned to be used for Blackboard Server upgrades and maintenance this year, but will no longer be available.

4. Continuing Business

Garbesi began discussion on the finalization of COBRA goals and objectives for the current year by bringing attention to an updated prioritized list which reflected the ranking vote taken at the prior COBRA meeting. Opp asked if COBRA should add an additional goal of examining the ABA budget in light of revelation of the 2.4 M debt. Gonzales commented that the President is currently investigating this. Lopez stated that he would like the new Chief Financial Officer to inform COBRA of potential changes that will be made in ABA. Mangold questioned how the supervisory process could have broken down in such a manner to allow this debt to be incurred and not made public. Lopez suggested creating as a new goal the opportunity for COBRA to collaborate with the new Chief Financial Officer in order to be fully informed of ABA budget
matters and planning. This received unanimous approval by COBRA members. A vote was taken to determine where this new goal should fit into the prioritized list, and it will now be listed as the third priority on the list. Lopez will draft a goal and objectives statement for this priority.

Discussion then continued on the goal of developing standards for faculty participation, transparency, and consistency in instructional budgeting. Lopez felt that transparency is the most important issue, since faculty in general have very little insight into how decisions are made at the College level. Garbesi would like to institutionalize faculty involvement and establish principles for faculty participation in instructional budget decision-making. She suggested that COBRA work with the new Provost in doing so. Opp and Spielman volunteered to form an ad-hoc committee to work on this goal. They will begin by gathering relevant university documents related to this process. Sawyer mentioned that a section in CAPR documentation discusses the allocation process by Deans and Chairs which includes a provision for faculty approval. Trumbo suggested that COBRA inform the new Provost of expectations regarding openness and transparency. Garbesi will request the College budgets. The ad-hoc committee will review existing documents during the February 16 meeting.

Garbesi will invite Linda Dalton to discuss the funding level of Enrollment Services at a future COBRA meeting.

Garbesi will organize an examination of the new budget reporting system (Goal 4). She will work with Erway and Fred Dorer, and Erway will report at a future COBRA meeting, most likely on March 2.

Goal #5 is understanding the Auxiliary and Enterprise Funds budgets and their relationship to the General Fund. Enterprise activities are self-funding, and include Continuing Education, Campus Housing, and Parking operations. Their employees are State employees. Enterprise funds pay a fee to the CSU. Auxiliary units include the University Union, Associated Students, University Advancement, and the University Foundation. Garbesi will invite the new Vice President to a future COBRA meeting to discuss these areas.

Discussion of Goal #6 (Understand the purpose and implications of CSUEB debts) was deferred until the next COBRA meeting due to lack of time.

5. Next Meeting

The next COBRA meeting will be held on February 2 and will include a report from John Charles, Chief Information Officer.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.
Respectfully submitted,
Dana Edwards, Secretary