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

Approved Minutes of the COBRA Meeting of Friday, April 10, 2009

Members Present: Jeanette Bicais, Dennis Chester, Judith Faust, Armando Gonzales, Janet Logan, Nancy Mangold, Sue Opp (Chair), Eric Suess

Members absent: Kris Erway, Steve Ugbah, Ke Zou

Guests: Jodi Servatius

1. Approval of the agenda – MSA

2. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (3/13/2009)
The minutes were approved, with one small error corrected. MSA.

3. Report of the Chair
Chair Opp mentioned that at a Senate Chairs of the CSU meeting, the budget situation dominated the discussion, and it was apparent that different campuses had different issues. At many campuses, it seems that there were some fairly chaotic top-down decisions being made. At CSUEB we are taking a more measured approach, and there seems to be more open communication.
The next COBRA meeting will be on April 24, 2009. We will work on the COBRA Final Report at that meeting. The document deadline is May 15, 2009.

4. Report of the Presidential Appointee(s)
It was reported that we are in somewhat of a holding pattern concerning the most recent cuts, and that what is normally called the “May revise” of the State budget by the Governor may end up becoming the “June revise” because the State propositions being voted on May 19 will affect the budget.

5. Old Business
a. Ongoing discussion of Cabinet’s budget proposal for 09-10 from UPABC meeting 4/3/09.
Chair Opp reported on what went on at UPABC, since some members did not attend. Highlights included the resumption of construction on the Student Services building, the imminent construction of the Rec and Wellness building, and looking ahead to the next construction project, the parking structure. Parking fees will be increased for MPPs and students – faculty parking fees are tied to receiving cost of living increases. The stadium upgrade was discussed and VP Bibb indicated this was “promised” to students with the move to Division II. It was also mentioned that the state budget did not receive $10 billion in stimulus funds, “triggering” an additional $50 million cut to the CSU, of which our share is a $1.7 million one-time cut. There were three presentations to UPABC on the budget implications of the cuts, made by Student Affairs, College of Science, and College of Education and Allied Sciences. Most of
the presentations exhibited a clear trend: loss of enrollment, longer time to graduation, longer wait lists for classes, reduction in the quality of instruction. Linda Dalton also spoke at UPABC, specifically about enrollment targets. Originally we were told that if campuses went way over 2% over the enrollment target, no State university fees would be given to the campus. Now they are saying that campuses would get half of the State University fees. The next UPABC meeting will be held on May 1, 2009.

A discussion ensued which ranged from the possibility of training counselors to assist UAC as trainees/interns to faculty government looking into increases in workload due to the budget situation. Assigned time was also a topic of discussion, with Armando Gonzales emphasizing that chairs of departments get administrative time, not assigned time. It was mentioned that there are only limited positions in local faculty governance with assigned time and they are Senate Chair, Senate Secretary and Affirmative Action Liaison Officer (AALO).

b. Referral from ExCom: Analysis of budget implications of President’s online initiative – draft report

The draft of the COBRA report to the President re: the online initiative was discussed and, with only minor modifications, it was approved.

6. Adjournment – MSA

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Faust
COBRA Secretary