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

Approved Minutes of the Meeting of January 30, 2009

Members Present: Jeanette Bicais, Dennis Chester, Kris Erway, Judith Faust, Armando Gonzales, Janet Logan, Nancy Mangold, Sue Opp (Chair), Eric Suess, Steve Ugbah, Ke Zou

Guests: Carl Bellone, John Charles

1. Approval of the agenda - MSA

2. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (1-16-09)
   It was pointed out that the minutes did not mention that two other members were absent from the Jan. 16 meeting, Janet Logan and Eric Suess. With that amendment, two typos, and the substitution of “or other funds” instead of “or lottery funds” on the final page, the minutes were approved as amended.

3. Report of the Chair – Chair Opp reminded COBRA that at our next meeting on Feb. 20, there will be guest presentations by Chris Brown (AVP Enterprise Activities), David Cain (AVP Facilities Planning & Operations), and Debby De Angelis (Director, Athletics). She also reminded us that UPABC will meet from 10 am to 11:30 on Feb. 6 – a date that would normally be a COBRA meeting date.

4. Report of the Presidential Appointee(s)
   Presidential appointees said that there have been a series of meetings of the cabinet on budget, and also mentioned that they were working on revised budget spreadsheets.

5. Old Business
   a. Ongoing discussion of Cabinet's budget proposal for 09-10, from last COBRA meeting
      It was mentioned that the Cabinet was working on new numbers, based on new ways of interpreting direct instruction. Chair Opp said if she receives a new version of the 2009-10 Base Budget Alternatives for Discussion, she will post it on Sharepoint.

      Chair Opp asked about some elements going into the base budget projections. The one-time fee revenues for 150 + 150 FTES (150 resident students, 150 non-residents) means we got the $1.9 million for this year (2008-09) but won’t have it go into the base, hence its subtraction out of the projections for 2009-10. It is difficult to determine how much of the 150 + 150 revenue comes to us; we can’t count the full complement of fees because there are fee waivers in some cases. Non-residents do bring in more revenue, so the $1.9 million will certainly not be 50%/50% division between residents and non-residents

6. New Business
   a. Referral from ExCom: Analysis of budget implications of the Online Initiative
Carl Bellone, Associate Vice President, Academic Programs and Graduate Studies, spoke to us regarding the timeline of online programs at CSUEB. He handed out a form on the status of current and anticipated online degrees as of Jan. 30. There are five (5) current online degrees: B.A. in Human Development, B.S. in Recreation, B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism, M.S. in Recreation and Tourism, and M.S. in Education (Option in Online Teaching & Learning). There are 4 online degrees planned for Fall Quarter 2009: M.S. in Taxation, M.S. in Educational Leadership, B.A. in Ethnic Studies, and B.S. in Health Sciences. Planned for Winter or Spring 2010 are B.A in Women’s Studies, and M.S. in Health Care Administration. Other possible degree or certification programs are being planned, as well.

Dr. Bellone said that WASC requires that any program with 50% or more classes online must get WASC permission. As of Fall 2008, if an online program or degree is proposed at CSUEB, it needs to go through the Senate, and fill out a “new degree proposal” form – which asks no pertinent questions regarding online teaching. Taxation and Ed Leadership, for example, have been giving their degrees for as much as 35 years. Why should they have to fill out new course or degree forms?

Dr. Bellone proposes that the Senate allow colleges/departments to use the WASC proposal form instead, which does ask questions related to online teaching. Examples:
- Online assessment or?
- Library resources online?
- Technical resources online?
- Is advising provided to students online?

Chair Opp asked about the WASC timeframe and Dr. Bellone said WASC has streamlined the process to 1-2 months. It takes about a full quarter to get it through our campus process.

A discussion ensued, and a question was asked about how many G.E. classes were online. It was mentioned that some Library 1210 classes were online classes. Dr. Bellone mentioned that the freshman class, which library TT faculty teach but get no FTE for, has doubled (700 – 1400) in two years which is tough on librarians, since the number of librarians has not doubled. He mentioned that Foothill Community College has some online lower division classes, and that Diablo Valley College has many GE classes online. Discussion ensued regarding lower division GE at those community colleges, how they handle labs and oral communication, and then a question was asked regarding the quarter /semester credits issue if we try to induce students from semester campuses cutting enrollment in summer, to take online courses from CSUEB. Dr. Bellone explained that classes on the quarter system would be worth 4.5 units when taught for those normally on the semester schedule – for specific cohorts only.

Steve Ugbah gave members a handout with suggested guidelines and benchmarks for assessing online programs, derived from a 2000 article by R. Phipps in the Summer issue of *International Higher Education*.

Next, John Charles, VP for Information Technology Services, spoke on what we are doing regarding the online initiative. He said we are primarily aggregating resources, taking people from different groups and putting them together on teams – with no new resources committed. As the President told us at our special meeting, we
are moving more classes online than other CSUs, most of whose online courses are continuing education classes, mostly Masters and a few B.A. and B.S. degrees.

Charles mentioned some one-time funding for starting to reach veterans, and not just veterans but also active duty personnel. He said there were 4 or 5 proposals out for grants, from which no money has come yet, since foundations are struggling in this economy to support already granted programs. As more government money becomes available, we will hear more about the “Troops to College” statewide initiative. The chancellor took it on to coordinate this initiative statewide as an opportunity for the CSU, and the VOICE (Veterans Online Internet Campus Exchange) program is the online part. Two campuses are positioned well in this, CSUEB and San Diego State. San Diego State will be mostly Continuing Ed with military installations nearby, whereas CSUEB will be non-CE. Charles mentioned that there was one PEM recruiter specializing in veterans.

Chair Opp asked about the figure of 45 new faculty as a possible result of increased funds for online initiative, and was told that they would not be “new online professors” but simply new TT faculty. There was some discussion as to online classes possibly costing more than on-ground classes, and Charles responded as to definitions of “cost,” mentioning a figure of $2500-3000 less capital cost per FTES per year for online (classroom use, energy, etc.).

Senate Chair Opp’s Jan. 23rd letter to COBRA asking the committee to “undertake a review of the revenue and budgetary implications, both positive and negative, of the online initiative” and the people thought important to invite for input was discussed briefly. The new Director of Online and Hybrid Support Services was mentioned as someone who should be very helpful to the online initiative, and the committee thought all the people mentioned in the letter made sense to invite to COBRA. It was mentioned that David Cain, coming to next COBRA meeting might be asked about his thoughts on the online initiative as it relates to the capital budget. A question was also asked regarding the possibilities of one-time stipends to faculty willing to work over the summer to learn best practices of online teaching – this has been done at other universities. Considering the budget situation, most thought this unlikely at this time.

7. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Faust, Secretary