

University Budget Council (UBC) Minutes
March 24th, 2009

Members Present: Betty Beard (NUR), Byron Bond (Cont. Ed.), Jason Broge (B/F), Michael Bretting (COE), Polly Buchanan (COT/AA), Jim Carroll (Physics/Astronomy), David Clifford (Faculty Council), John Donegan (Physical Plant), LaVerne Higgins (COB), Brian Kulpa (SA), John Lumm (B/F), Michael Malach (Athletics), Bob Neely (AA), Todd Ohmer (B/F), Chris Shell (Registrar), Phil Smith (Fac. Council)

Guests: Physical Plant Update - Ray Sowers (electrical engineer), Steve Moore (energy and sustainable manager), Henry Braunz (plant foreman)

Reminder: All chairs should send their handouts electronically to Ken Adkins (kadkins5@emich.edu) to get posted on the UBC web site.

- I. Minutes from 3.10.09 approved; minutes from 3.17.09 approved.
- II. Tabled motion – Remove table from Byron’s proposal, move to approve
Approved by Faculty Council – passed!

See print out of the proposal on UBC web site. Byron, please post this document through Ken Adkins.

- III. Report from Physical Plant Staff on Utility Budget Proposed for FY10
Natural gas purchasing discussed – volatility in this market is always a risk. Prices down now similar to 2004; (<\$9... now in \$5 range due to economy.) EMU is low on their gas storage volume so we want to buy now and store it. Want to have enough in storage to run a month in the Winter. EMU buys from 3 sources.

Electricity – Co-gen running on gas a lot to generate our own electricity which will reduce the electric bill; this is currently cheaper than buying electricity. Life expectancy of our turbine is a concern; costs \$896,000 to be rebuilt after 30,000 hours of operation. By June 2010 we need to replace it. Are saving an amount each month toward this future expense. Discussed reason for keeping the turbine available for the future as a back-up.

Discussed components of the electrical budget for 08-09 and new items in FY09-10 budget.

\$250,000 for sustainable activities in next year’s electric budget was questioned as appropriate by John Lumm. John Donegan said they need funding to try new saving approaches; more discussion needed later.

No oil needed next year; we are full (the oil farm has 3 tanks); use one tank/year; all tanks only run campus for 4 days.

Water budget about the same next year; rate going up but usage is going down somewhat.

All utilities are down next year; yeah!! These are the reported percentage reductions in proposed utility budget.

Electricity - 31%

Gas - 15%

Water - 3%

Total - 19%

	08-09 Budget	08-09 Projected	09-10 Budget projection
General Fund	\$9.1M*	\$8.9M	\$7.7M
Aux. Fund	<u>3.7M</u>	<u>3.4M</u>	<u>\$3.0M</u>
Total	<u>\$12.8M</u>	<u>\$12.3M</u>	<u>\$10.7M</u>

*The \$9.1M reflects \$500k energy savings initiatives that were tbd in building 08-09 budget..

John reported that there are many other small things that could be changed/installed around campus and payback would be fairly quick in reducing utility us even more in the future.

Questions were asked about buying more gas for the future (>than one year out) since price is so low now. Spot purchases were discussed and the flexibility with advantages and disadvantages reviewed.

North campus is steam metered now, south campus is not. Can use calculations better now but is hard to measure gas flow; are too many variables.

IV. General Budget Update

- a. John L and Jason – We are close to 09 budget on revenue and expenses
- b. Are we re-basing next year? No. Obvious errors in this year's budget, or special needs will be considered in next year's budgets.
- c. University Presidents are staying close to Lansing; we don't know 09-10 budget yet. Its likely to be flat funding next year.

V. Subcommittees

- a. Class Scheduling Patterns – Chris Shell reporting
 1. Handout: Pros and Cons of Discontinuing Printed Schedule Book
 - a. Accuracy of information discussed, this is a concern; see attached report
 - b. Currently in MI publics about 1/2 still print schedule books, and about 1/2 print catalogs.
 - c. There has been no student input on this topic yet; this is needed.

- d. Concern that there are 4 different ways to access online schedule book; this is CONFUSING!
- e. Ads in schedule book are controlled by printer... humm.
- 2. Question: What happens to denied <2.0 GPA students?? Where do they go?
 - a. Most go to community colleges (60%); many go no where.
 - b. Chris will check with the National Student Clearing House where 95% of schools in US participate and share data.
 - c. Some go to out of state schools; some go to other state schools.
- 3. Can EMU operate a “community college” for gen ed courses so we don’t lose students to area community colleges?
 - a. Those not accepted get a letter suggesting they go to a community college, take 12 credits and get a good GPA and come back to EMU.
 - b. Do we need expanded remedial courses for these students?
 - i. Remember PASS program of the past.
 - c. Do we need to collaborate more with Washtenaw Community College so we don’t repeat what they do. We could then concentrate on upper level professional courses, and graduate education and research.
 - d. Be careful not to disrupt our transfer agreements we currently have with other community colleges, especially Washtenaw CC. If we start offering CC classes, they may be more reluctant to send their students our way.

VI. Other items

- a. Bob Neely – Library costs to keep the collection up-to-date is a real concern. We need to discuss next time how to redistribute IDC across campus to support the library research infrastructure. They get none now. He will bring some data to share on April 7.
- b. Jim Carroll – More discussion needed on the game guarantees function.
- c. Asset Preservation List also needs discussion (Jim Carroll). How does this list work? Needs clarification from John Donegan.
 - i. He suggested we hold asset preservation funds at “0” next year and use stimulus funding from the state for asset preservation.

Following are the proposed dates for the FY09 UBC Meeting Schedule
 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. in 205 Welch.

March 31st - Speakers from Psyc PhD program, and Ellen Gold (health center)

April 7 - Ron Miller (EMU Foundation) and Bob Neely,
 plus early report on sp/su/fall registration from Chris S

April 14th **23rd Thurs (due to Bd of Regents Mtg on Tues)**, and 28th
 May 12th and 26th