

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
May 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Rick Yecny.

Committee members in attendance included Bob Ackerman, Pat Albright, Roger Hall, Paul Holman, Susie Johnston, Tony McCown, Chris Matson, Marston Morgan, Pat Riggs-Henson, Dennis Shine, Carmen Urbina, and Rick Yecny.

Also in attendance were President Mary Spilde, Vice President Sonya Christian, and Chief Financial Officer Greg Morgan.

1. Approval of Minutes

Riggs-Henson moved to approve the April 29, 2009, budget committee meeting minutes. McCown seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Budget Framework

Spilde distributed a handout showing four budget scenarios, contingent upon the community college allocation from the state government.

Spilde presented Budget Packet II, which included additional information for items on which budget committee members have requested more information, such as:

- Administrative Recovery on grants
- Breakdown of OPE
- Financial aid and student cost of attendance
- Comparison cost w/other community colleges

3. Public Comment

Jonathan Morton, ASLCC vice president, expressed concerned regarding the future of the students at Lane and asked the budget committee to consider the financial situation of the students before increasing tuition.

James Manning, ASLCC senator, stated that he receives only loans from financial aid and not grants. He asked the budget committee to keep in mind that most students do not receive financial aid.

Stan Taylor, Political Science instructor, asked that the budget be balanced without cutting jobs.

Rodger Gamblin, Instructional Technology Technician, expressed concern regarding budget reductions, stating that soon there will be nothing left to cut back.

Dennis Gilbert, Physics instructor, read an article from the Chronicle of Higher Education entitled "Few Boards Do Sophisticated Budget Planning," and asked that the college implement cost accounting at the unit level.

Phil Martinez, Economic instructor, expressed concern regarding the dwindling human resources on campus.

4. LCCEF Presentation

Bob Baldwin, LCCEF President, and Denise Brinkman, LCCEF Grievance Chair, presented information from the classified union. LCCEF recommended a temporary \$10 per credit tuition surcharge. They also recommended capping all salaries at \$75,000 annually for two years. Baldwin shared classified staff poverty numbers, and a wage to inflation analysis. Brinkman expressed dissatisfaction with the budget process, stating that, even though she served on the College Council Budget Subcommittee, the process does not make sense unless you are an insider.

5. LCCEA Presentation

Jim Salt, LCCEA President, distributed a spreadsheet showing LCCEA's proposed budget. He stated that the College Council Budget Subcommittee held several meetings this year, but no agreement was reached. The budget proposals which have been presented to the committee are the administration's. He stated that any budget sacrifices made should be temporary and self cancelling. LCCEA also recommended a greater tuition surcharge than that which the college has recommended, recognizing the increase in expanded Pell Grants and the tax deduction and credit for students.

6. ASLCC Presentation

Josh Canaday, ASLCC President, and several students addressed the budget committee. The students reiterated that only 30-40 percent of students receive financial aid and that for those who do receive it, financial aid may not cover all expenses if tuition is raised. Some students would be forced to increase their loans or even drop out and not complete their educational goals. They asked that the financial burden not fall solely on the students.

The committee asked the college staff for additional information regarding the tax credit for students.

7. Management Presentation

Jim Lindly, Business Development Center Director, acknowledged that the college needs to maintain affordability and accessibility for the students. To

exceed capacity through enrollment growth and raise tuition goes against those values. Other community colleges with lower tuition are within driving range, and we may lose those students. He stated that the management addressed the board in a past meeting and offered to freeze management wages for FY10.

8. Differential Fees

Christian explained the history of differential fees. It originally began when select programs were being considered for cuts, and the solution to keep those programs was to implement a differential fee. During the last budget decline, we were facing the possibility of cutting higher cost programs, such as nursing and dental hygiene, and we needed a way to retain those programs and recover some of the cost. One criterion for a differential fee is the potential for higher earnings. Differential fees have not detracted students from the dental hygiene and nursing programs. Even with the differential fee, the college is still subsidizing higher cost programs.

Committee members expressed concern regarding accessibility to programs with differential fees and wanted to ensure that increased financial aid is available for those students. Kate Barry, Executive Dean of Students Affairs, stated that the substantial proportion for those students is loan aid, not grant aid.

Yecny asked for a straw poll of those that support differential fees. Six members were in favor, three were opposed.

9. Discussion on Growth

This topic was tabled until the next budget committee meeting.

10. Information Requests

- Matson requested a needs analysis, marketing information, and the overlay versus student actuals
- Albright requested information on the student tax credit

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Approved:

Rick Yecny, Chair

Date

Mary Spilde, President

Date

Recorded by: Donna Zmolek
Assistant to the President/Board