

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
May 5, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 5:41 p.m. by Dennis Shine.

Committee members in attendance included Bob Ackerman, Pat Albright, Roger Hall, Susie Johnston, Rayna Luvert, Tony McCown, Chris Matson, Marston Morgan, Jennifer Ocker, Dennis Shine, and Sharon Stiles.

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

1. Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

2. LCCEA Presentation

Jim Salt, LCCEA President, stated that he felt the budget process went better this year. There was agreement on enrollment projection, although the college needs to identify factors to use to project enrollment. He referred to page one of his handout, which included variables, exogenous and endogenous factors, and other data that would help determine enrollment increases or decreases.

The association does not believe that the current college plan addresses the restoration of furlough days and inflation for next year's salary and insurance. In order to do that, the faculty schedule would have to be restored to 175 days per year from the 171.4 days the faculty are currently working, which will be a bargaining issue. Health insurance rates are said to increase 26%.

The measure for inflation is 2.6%, but there is no funding for that in the budget. Next year's budget also maintains a significant majority of faculty vacancies. There is also a proposal to maintain the reserve account, which only exists today because of the sacrifices the employee groups have made, which have proven to be unnecessary. He asked that the budget committee look at the compensation packages for employees.

Faculty oppose the tuition rates that students are subjected to, but the college needs to use the resources available for funding, and not take it from the employee salaries. Revenue from the enrollment and financial aid increases should be used. Funding from total public resources and tuition combined went up 16.2%, so it is difficult for staff to understand that there is no money for employee compensation.

Salt referred to his handout which showed changes in faculty, management, and classified compensation packages over the past two years. When all factors are taken into consideration, faculty have not done as well as the other two groups.

3. LCCEF Presentation

Bob Baldwin, LCCEF President, presented information from the classified union. He would have liked to go into the substance of the college's budget, but requests for detailed information from the college have been met with resistance. Baldwin made a clarification to the budget message. It is incorrect to state that Lane is the only community college that does not have a cap on insurance premiums. There has been some form of control language in the classified contract for the past few years.

The college administration usually points out impact of potential budget cuts on the students and the community. Baldwin would like equal consideration to the impacts on staff. He distributed handouts showing proposed insurance premium increases and the amount of employee contribution over the next three years. He also reported on classified staff poverty levels. In many classified positions, and employee supporting a family of three or four would qualify for food stamps and home energy assistance even though they work full time. He asked that the budget committee consider the impact of their decisions on classified employees.

4. ASLCC Presentation

James Manning, ASLCC President, agreed that staff should be fairly compensated, but we need to remember that these are very trying times. The college needs to ensure that education is affordable and accessible to all students. Although federal financial aid will increase next year, students will receive less money through state funding. The Oregon Opportunity Grant will distribute approximately \$27 million less next year. Students are graduating with a large amount of debt. To increase tuition will mean an even larger debt at graduation. There are also students who qualify for awards but are left out due to lack of funding and are paying for tuition out of their own pocket. Increases may prevent these students from attending college. Manning asked that the students be kept in mind and to strive for a low tuition/high aid model.

5. Management Presentation

Jim Lindly, Business Development Center Director, stated that there are three major themes to Lane: the college community, the business of education, and sustainability. He presented information on the number of students, faculty, classified staff, and managers. There are 57 managers to manage 628 full and part time faculty members, 416 classified staff members, and 36,900 students. Lindly distributed a handout showing that managers' salary percent increases have been less than the classified and faculty over the past ten years.

The public has shown us that they are not willing to finance education as they have in the past, which has caused the college to look for other funding and operate more like a business, fiscally prudent and tightening the belt. Lane must

be sustainable in the future, to educate and train students, be an economic drive in Lane County, and remain a leader in educational quality and innovation.

Trends are showing that unemployment will likely plateau or drop off in the near future, which means our enrollment will go down. We will not see increases in levels of state funding and it could decrease in the next biennium. Meanwhile, we will see our PERS and health care rates go up. Our tuition rates are already the highest of all community colleges in the state, so we can't count on tuition rate increases. Managers pledged to collaborate with the college and requested that they be treated equitably.

6. Information Requests

- Since state contributions to public agencies have decreased, Albright asked to see the proportion of decrease to education
- Albright requested economic information impacting enrollment projects and information on dislocated workers, i.e. the Hynix cohort, and completion dates

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Approved:

Marston Morgan, Vice Chair Date

Mary Spilde, President Date

Recorded by: Donna Zmolek
Assistant to the President/Board