The University of Rhode Island
Strategic Budget and Planning Council
March 26, 2015
9:00 am – 10:30 am
Thomson Board Room, Ballentine Hall

Members in Attendance:
Don DeHayes (Chair), Christina L. Valentino (Vice Chair), Linda Barrett, Thorr Bjorn, Faye Boudreaux-Bartels, Lori Ciccomascalo, Steven D’Hondt, Tom Dougan, John Kirby, Trish Morokoff, Ann Morrissey, Bahram Nassersharif, Ellen Reynolds, Gerry Sonnenfeld, Devon Swanson, Kim Washor

Members Absent: Sharon Bell, Wendy Bucci, Rachel DiCioccio, Ken Kermes, Naomi Thompson, Joseph Maynard

See the complete list of member information at the Strategic Budget and Planning Council website at:
http://www.uri.edu/budget/sbpc.html

1) Announcements
   a) The Chair and all academic departments voted in favor of academic health collaborative; faculty senate approval expected at April meeting
   b) Bridge between School of Education and CCE – faculty met and debated; seems strong consensus.

2) Approval of February 26, 2015 Minutes
   a) Minutes approved.

3) Subcommittee Update
   a) Chair: Long range planning – charge broader optimal long range budget & financial planning; the discussion led to two recommendations: evaluate organizational personnel and use of budgetary resources; second was to prioritize positions strategically and develop a long range (2-4 years) timeline that aligns with future funding requests and the URI and State budget process. If do more evaluations, will need to evaluate what they are doing currently. Cannot be taken in isolation.
   b) Chair: Before we get to analyzing job descriptions, SBPC previously agreed to evaluate each job description we have; not productive to analyze the individual job descriptions; came out strong yet not moving forward; I endorse recommendation two (2), this is occurring in Academic Affairs relative to faculty positions;
   c) Issue of looking at job description can happen simultaneously; looking for immediate impact; review non-classified job description, make recommendations to HR; need template and process.
   d) Chair: Also emerged in IT discussions relative to the URI Administrative and Management Review Committee (AMRC) was discussion of resources that were in and outside of IT; the system is not efficient because we do not have flexibility; we have a lot of ability to effect change and have not put it into play; the SBPC commented that the AMRC report may have taken a narrower review of IT.
   e) Good activities, but, toward what end? What is the vision and that might better define the process and help guide the Council.
   f) Vice Chair: All of pieces come together; tied into effort on one classification system that could change the way we do business; draft report will be focused on IT Governance and will be sent
to community; then IT strategic plan and balance between central and decentralized resources; other piece was academic reorganization; looking for external consultants in HR; told not to address Capital Projects at this time.
g) Chair: Since it seems to connect with AMRC, HR may need a report on the progress of this.
h) Vice Chair: Job type could be the same; gaming the system is not an accurate statement.
i) Goal is to understand and a survey will be forthcoming.

4) CIP Preliminary Presentation and Discussion
a) Similar process to last year; but in two meetings instead of three.
b) CIP from FY17-21 – future projects.
c) Overview of process.
d) CIP process – 5-year plan submission to state annually; plan we reviewed last year is being reviewed by legislature now; solicitation in January to campus asking for new projects/ideas and vetted through division heads and Senior Team. Recommendations from SBPC go to Senior Team and review with them at two-three meetings. URI then forwards the CIP to BOE, PSE council and to State Budget Office in September. Governor’s capital commission reviews the request; Governor recommends to legislature for review, decision and approval; official capital budget posted at the end of March.
e) Reviewed funding sources; chair – add public private partnerships.
f) 48% of funding 1994-2014 GO and RICAP.
g) On-going projects are active in some way.
h) On-going current partially funded projects reviewed.
i) Ranger Hall update – alternates built in so will be able to proceed even if no fundraising; the base project is first floor.
j) Revpar did a feasibility study for Upper College Road.
k) Gateway project is multipurpose – not for an Admissions building; intention to keep Bookstore in the Memorial Union.
l) GO Bond projects reviewed.
m) Davis Hall added to Historic Quad buildings.
n) Fine Arts no state funding for A&E so will use GO bonds and will have to reduce elsewhere.
o) Phase 3 for College of Engineering; SBPC prioritized high master plan for bay campus; Phase 3 may be a bay campus project.
p) New CIP Projects reviewed.
q) FY17, 18 projects presented for SBPC ranking.
r) Will send out a document with project write-ups; Council to review; including review of funding sources; operating annual costs and is based on formula; debt service calculator included;
s) Next month similar rating sheet will be used; same form as last year;
t) Over the years SBPC used the rating results and subsequent discussions to arrive at the recommendations along with comments to be sent to the President.
u) May need a third meeting. Useful info will be to know the source of funding and the impact on e.g. tuition, rates, etc. could propose different funding sources;
v) Ryan speaks with division heads about funding; some are multi varied source of funds; advantageous for us to indicate private funding; but is something we need in hand; state expects us to come to the table with university and private fundraising for 25% of each project; expectation by state for more fundraising on projects; we do not want to fill in a blank with fundraising; if fundraising is a piece of the project it does not start without the funding.
w) URIF has a list of projects and many of these are not on it.
x) Next year start CIP discussion with SBPC in February.
5) Update on Process Streamlining
   a) Craft the process streamlining and establish a subcommittee; Ellen Reynolds has agreed to chair; Trish Morokoff, Ann Morrissey, Bahram Nassersharif, Wendy Bucci are members of this subcommittee. Charge is written; have not done much in five years; our process is a challenge to do our critical work.

6) Governor’s Budget
   a) Tuition and mandatory fee annual increase 2.8%.
   b) Recommended a ~$1.9M annual increase.
   c) RICAP request was not recommended.
   d) Performance based funding – we provided input; will include credit completion and graduation rates; we were concerned that progress we made over last few years would not be recognized; concerned about the unintended consequences of performance funding; made some strong connections and informed them appropriately; no legislation yet; draft legislation is more flexible; we need to be involved in it; good thing for us as we have no model for formula funding; structure will give us formula and criteria to work from.

7) Meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.

Next Meeting Thursday, April 23, 2015, 10:00 am-11:30 am

Minutes submitted by:
John Olerio, Office of the Provost & Linda Barrett, Budget & Financial Planning Office