University of Rhode Island  
Strategic Budget and Planning Council  
Wednesday, June 1, 2016, 9:00am-12:00pm  
Memorial Union, Room 300  

Members in Attendance:  
Don DeHayes (Chair), Christina L. Valentino, Linda Barrett, Sharon Bell (left at 10am), Faye Boudreaux-Bartels, Wendy Bucci, Thorr Bjorn, Lori Ciccomascolo, Steven D’Hondt, Mary Jo Gonzales, Ken Kermes, Lindsay McLennan, Trish Morokoff, Ann Morrissey, Ellen Reynolds, Joelle Rollo-Koster, Gerry Sonnenfeld, Kim Stack, Naomi Thompson  

Members Absent: Cody Anderson, Rachel DiCioccio, John Kirby,  

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  
   • Mentioned commencement day and speaker  

2. Approval of May 5, 2016 Minutes (copy attached)  
   • Approved as presented  

3. Strategic Thinking and Planning by the Council – Revisiting the Charge and the Principles for a Strategic and Sustainable Budget Process at URI  
   • Budget should always be strategic  
   • Investments we make must be sustainable  
   • Encourages innovation  
   • Contingency fund has been established as a result of work of SBPC  
   • Principles should be applied to all funds  
   • Reduction Principles exist  
   • Suggestion of clarifying that this addresses all funds  
   • To be reviewed first meeting in the fall  
   • Overhead funds are distributed throughout the campus; not managed centrally  

4. FY2018 Divisional Request (9:30 am) - Student Affairs presented by Mary Jo Gonzales, Interim Vice President  
   • Efforts over past year in aligning Student Affairs with Academic Plan  
   • Overview of division’s funding strategy  
   • Only 3 are funded via Fund 100; others funded by fees and are self-sustaining  
   • We manage internally; reallocate when possible  
   • Partner with others (e.g. substance abuse position shared with HRL)
Three new positions requested

Assistant Director, Veterans Affairs (~374 students this year; growing by 20 annually)

These veterans have more than one tour

Last year, Dean CCE and VPSA researched splitting the position between Providence and Kingston (60 students in Providence)

Veterans Center is in Adams Hall

Dean of Students will supervise the position

Of the NE Land Grants we are the only school without a position

Regulatory requirements indicate one point of contact

Second request is University Psychologist

20% increase in student clients; 15% increase in appointments; increase in suicidal and mental challenges; 18-22 is number one time that individuals get a diagnosis; want to get students into treatment early

Triage system adopted; walk in availability; they have to wait too long to get their second appointment;

New position would allow Student Affairs to assist in faculty and staff support of how to manage students in the classroom

Third request is to align Gender & Sexuality Center (G&S) with the CED funding

In times of budget shortfalls, HRL has provided support to G&S

This limited HRL ability to provide other services

Requesting $305K for G&S to be on Fund 100

Auxiliaries provide continuous support

5. FY2018 Divisional Request – Student Affairs critique presented by Trish Morokoff, Wendy Bucci, and Cody Anderson

Veterans Affairs – full time position and operating for $94K

This is a full time Kingston FTE

Veterans Committee in place

Comprehensive plan on campus for Veterans

Limitations – additional FTE; do we need a FT staff member to support Veterans at CCE;

Collaboration required between Providence and Kingston

Second request is for a Psychologist

Students now presenting with increased needs

Center is struggling in providing services

Provide more counseling; workshops on variety of topics

Helpful in higher stress areas of academics

Homesickness, change of major assistance

Refers students to other areas on campus

Aids international students
• Limitations – additional FTE needed
• Could be a consortium agreement with other counseling centers for instance of overflow; training clinics that are run on campus; but would not replace this position
• Third request – challenging as we did not know as much about the auxiliaries
• This amount is for staffing of the center; they are already in place
• Request is for general fund to provide funding
• Auxiliary pay indirect cost of $4M annually
• Makes sense for University to pay for it since it is not a program specifically connected to HRL
• HRL would like to spend their funds on mission related items
• URI Police Officers, Counseling, Gateway are other areas that the auxiliaries fund
• It is common across universities to have auxiliaries contribute
• Not a request to approve the G&S Center; but, rather a request to have it funded on general revenue
• These types of funding requests should initially come to SBPC
• SBPC should consider all new projects so they do not spring up all over campus

6. FY2018 Divisional Request – Student Affairs Council Discussion
• Equity Council and President Commission on Women have Veterans position as a high goal
• Operating funds relate to professional speakers and events; some are national requirements
• HRL would invest in MapQuest, coordinator of assessment, increase RA’s and faculty support for learning living communities
• G&S Center was part of HRL; CED came on board and over time it did not seem to make as much sense for it to be funded in HRL
• All other centers are in fund 100
• Regarding the Psychologist and Veteran request, no faculty education is mentioned
• Faculty need education on how to deal with students needing this assistance
• Faculty training is a critical part of both positions
• Needs to be in the job description
• Veterans position – what is the federal mandate
• Must have a single point of contact for all veteran students
• Have provided enough support (e.g. staff person in UC); now assigned to temp person
• Two phases; certification (benefit allocation); not doing holistic
• Consequences could be complaint filed and go through the process
• MaryJo will get info on consequences and the specific mandate (see June 7th minutes for update on this item)
There was never a Veterans Coordinator; was an Academic Advisor; he specializes in working with Veterans; not ideal; has to be one point of contact; if this position is funded, they could train advisors in Providence.

Do we have folks or portions of folks on campus that has veteran responsibility?

Benefit certification is done by Enrollment Services, which would need to continue to perform that function.

No other positions required to serve veterans.

The Academic Advisor (AA) in Providence is not specifically a veteran advisor.

Providence AA would need more training.

Truly not an AA; Veterans take classes from elsewhere that do not transfer automatically; come to us with 30-40 credits and becomes a more complex process.

Seems to be little pieces of this happening now; that workload would go away.

Like to think about one University; this position should be in Providence 1-2 days per week evaluating the advising process.

Urge serious thought into addressing needs in Providence as part of the University.

G&S Center funding transfer – from a strategic standpoint we should be informed of what HRL will use the freed up $ for.

HRL space was initial reason for HRL funding.

Proposal did contain the specifics.

HRL would use the freed up funds as follows: $50K for Mapworks; $75K for Living Learning Communities; 8 RA’s & Coordinator of Assessment.

HRL contributes >$4M to the university via Auxiliary Indirect Cost.

Trying to have HRL fees support HRL mission related activities; G&S not a HRL mission.

Need to work into our principles the review of all funds regarding new proposals.

Counseling center position – issues related to behavioral and mental health; many of us on campus; 75% of those individuals with behavioral health challenges happen in 18-24 age group.

Training is critical to faculty and staff on campus.

If teach general education classes, the behavioral issues are in front of us on a day to day basis; need counseling; testing centers.

Training Clinics as a potential resource – what, where, level of qualifications? How viable of a resource?

Psychological Consultation Center – treat students under supervision and referrals in the past from Counseling Center; Couples Counseling in HDF; 75% of those individuals with behavioral health challenges happen in 18-24 age group.

Most students we are seeing cannot be seen by emerging practitioners.

Number of students needing service is extensive.

What is the ratio; ours is highest compared to other NE Land Grants.
7. FY2018 Divisional Request (10:30 am) – Athletics presented by Thorr Bjorn, Director
   - Student Athlete Welfare focus
   - Strategic Goals presented
   - FTE Positions that impact the athletes and their care
   - 2 Athletic Trainers and 2 for Strength and Conditioning
   - 2 Trainers are most critical; based on national recommendations we are behind
   - University recently settled a lawsuit
   - Concussion management and protocol
   - Required legally to monitor and provide care
   - Experts with their services are critical
   - Made some progress on strength and conditioning
   - Have 500 student athletes; need to add another position
   - We have gotten creative; searching for 2 trainers with funds from NCAA
   - Using NCAA OTO funds to cover the positions in FY2017; do not think we can push to FY2018
   - Travel Coordinator position; spend $3M annually; if had this position, creative packaging; travel program; ultimately savings could cover the cost; negotiate better rates for air and bus travel
   - Operating and Repair needs – hired thru reallocation a FT equipment manager; better service for all; more efficient
   - Student Athlete welfare is the most important; worried about funding them through the NCAA; plan will not be approved until April 2017
   - Travel is not a long term base budget request

8. FY2018 Divisional Request – Athletics critique presented by Ellen Reynolds, Steven D’Hondt, and Faye Boudreaux-Bartels
   - 2 New Athletic trainers – 7 trainers at present; 5 FTE + 2 Internal Payroll; the new trainers will be dedicated one to men basketball and one to women’s basketball
   - Free existing trainers to support other sports on a more regular basis
   - Have 18 sports; 14 head coaches; 500 athletes; 7 trainers
   - Per National Athletic Trainer Association, URI should have ~9-11 trainers
   - Atlantic 10 would indicate ~7
   - Colonial Athletic Average is 8.3
   - URI on low end of scale; with 2 we would be at 9, in middle of recommended group
   - Could these funds be used to better train the existing staff?
   - Must have a trainer at specific events
   - How worthwhile to train existing staff?
• Strength and Training Coaches 2 – URI has 3; 2 are URI payroll and 1 by Alumni; if funds came from 1 coach, the Alumni funded one would move to the URI payroll; if funds for 2, then would increase the number to 4
• Benefits – transfer of 3rd coach would provide salary increase and benefit package; hire interns for this program with Alumni $ freed up from the position
• Benchmark data less clear; Atlantic 10 average 3; Colonial 3.7; right at these two groups
• 1 coach for 20 athletes; when in the weight room working out
• More compelling case for 1 new hire; but, not 2
• Travel Coordinator – 1 position; benefits are to relieve coaches who do this all differently; could save this amount in the future
• If coaches doing it now, train them to do a better and efficient job? Coaches already work 50-70 hour weeks and they do need someone who has a business sense; they have traditional and non-traditional seasons for sports team
• Not sure need it for 12 mths
• In trial part time instead of full time to see if position could pay for itself and possibly be a 10 mth position
• Last item is operating request; this has been requested in the past
• No itemized budget; hard to understand savings/costs/purchases
• Perhaps if Alumni funds freed up, instead of hiring interns; perhaps help the Athletic Office
• Proposals (within each some are more meritorious than others); but, we vote on the package
• We talked about breaking it into priorities differently
• Some proposals within the proposal
• Could have priorities come up in council discussion

9. FY2018 Divisional Request – Athletics Council Discussion
• Misleading by mentioning the settlement
• Does this take care of some of the issues with Affordable Care? The 2 trainer positions would; still need to work on the rest
• Is this part of moving the FTE’s from Alumni to state payroll?
• Fourteen programs; seems like a small amount – any thought to the coaches contributing to a coordinator for all of them? Really think we will have savings in time;
• If coaches have better things to do than travel arrangements, then all faculty should have a travel coordinator; if you create this, there will be challenges from the colleges; they will say Athletics is getting their own Travel Coordinator; would be saying Athletic Travel is more important that faculty travel
• Coaches and Trainers may result in a real return from men’s and women’s basketball – could potentially yield better players
• 60-70% of URI travel budget is in Athletics; very complicated
• Why isn’t the travel agency we have good enough?
• More complicated because of student numbers
• Shorts Travel Agency is handling it a lot better than the last agency the state selected
• What happened with your proposals last year?
• None recommended
• Receive private donations for events; would this person help here? Open to this suggestion
• Current folks are doing more and spread out and not providing some coverage in some cases; no penalty; just standards and liability concerns
• Inventory tracking system mentioned – anything else on campus that could support you?
• Recreation services has tracking software; centralization of the travel coordination? How build collaborative? As the University talks more about streamlining should consider this.
• Athletics is fully supportive of a part time 10 mth position
• When interact with state travel agency, you do all the work; travel agency with the state does not do hotel arrangements;
• State travel agency limited in services it supplies
• If take BB Coach who is making much more than a faculty member, he should take the time to do his travel arrangements
• Athletics is a different beast; can they get autonomy from the state system?
• If we could fund strength and conditioning, reallocate the alumni funds for another priority
• Other source of funds (NCAA) – able to fund 2 for a year; about $400K from NCAA per Thorr
• NCAA $ are actually $641K and are OTO funds
• Per NCAA website, can be used for all students e.g. programs for all students, not just athletes
• Charter flights exist now for men and women (FY2016 included $200K for men and $40K for women; this was the result of an SBPC recommendation; each charter costs $40K)
• If not save $ will eliminate the travel position
• If we had an office for centralized travel office, could be in Administration and Finance; lends itself to streamlining; could be very helpful to JTerm faculty
• Double edge sword; I would prefer to research travel on the web myself as it gives me more freedom
• Collaborative power for many student trips
Is there an opportunity for SBPC to request its own proposals? E.g. centralized email system?

Meeting Adjourned at 12.15pm

Next Meeting Friday, June 3, 9:00 am -12:00 pm, Memorial Union, Room 300(Div Presentations)
Minutes Submitted by:
Lisa Fiorio and Linda Barrett, Budget & Financial Planning