Members in Attendance:
Chair Don DeHayes, Vice Chair Bob Weygand, Abu Bakr, Bob Beagle, Thorr Bjorn, Faye Boudreaux Bartels, Winnie Brownell, Steve D’Hondt, Tom Dougan, Nancy Eaton, Cheryl Foster, Jeff Johnson, Ron Jordan, Patricia Morokoff, Michael Smith, Ray Wright, Linda Barrett, Ann Morrissey

Members Absent:
Peter Alfonso, David Coates, Trish Casey, Ken Kermes, Scott Martin,

See the complete list of member information at the Strategic Budget and Planning Council website at http://www.uri.edu/budget/sbpc/Membership%2011.pdf

• Meeting was called to order at 10:08 am
Announcements:
• At the February 20, 2012 Board of Governors Finance and Facilities meeting, the committee voted to recommend that the Board, at the February 23, 2012 meeting, approve the University Retirement Incentive Plan (URIP). Vice Chair Weygand told the council that the Finance & Facilities Committee chair commented that it was hoped that the significant cost savings (dependent upon the number of individuals who opt to take the plan) from URIP would help keep tuition affordable.

Agenda Item 2 was addressed first.
Approval of Recommendations: Model for Budget Reinvestment, Contingency Fund, and Capital Expenditures.
• The chair noted that the President has seen the draft document.
  o Recommended edits:
    ▪ Heading in middle of second page will make reference to the fact that reinvestment relates to a positive fund balance being available.
    ▪ The words “and/or other relevant data” will be added after the words IPEDs data.
  o There was a vote for approval. Motion to approve by Tom Dougan, seconded by Ron Jordan. Vote was unanimous. Document will be forwarded by the Chair to the President with recommendation for approval.

Fund Balance Use for Student Athletic Advancement Center
• Chair indicated that the President approved of $1.3M being utilized from the $4.2M fund balance as of June 30, 2011. Chair mentioned that this item is not meant to be associated with the new SBPC recommended process approved in the previous item. That process will most likely be implemented next year as it still needs the approval of the President.
• Thorr presented information relating to the Center. The project originated 10 years ago and was originally a $7M project. At that time, there was a commitment made to the donors that URI would contribute to the project. The President did not want this to affect tuition and asked that the project be reviewed with the task of being more efficient. The project was changed from a new building to the renovation of existing space. The total cost is estimated at $3.9M with $2.3M already received from donors. Thus, $1.3M is needed from URI which is one-third of the original commitment. Tom Ryan donated $1M to the project. The upgrade will benefit this part of the campus.
• The project has 3 components – Renovations of weight rooms and training rooms; Academic support area.
• Discussion
  o This is an example of the kinds of requests that will come through the President’s Team to the Council after the new reinvestment process is approved by the President.
  o To Chair DeHayes’ knowledge, there are no other requests for use of fund balance at this time. The University made the commitment to the donors many years ago. We have a credibility issue with them if we do not fulfill this project. The timing is not intentional as we just approved reinvestment
process; but, this item is not related to that process which is yet to be approved by the President. The amount from the University has been minimized without harm to the project.
  o This project would serve approximately 450 varsity athletes.
  o The President would be interested in proposals in the future. They would be vetted first through division heads and not SBPC so Council does not get numerous requests.
  o In answer to a question, has not had a fund balance in past years so there was no process for handling such requests.
  o Discussion points related to the institution needing to live up to its commitment to the staff and to the donors & partner agencies in order to maintain its credibility.
  o In the future, the University might consider fewer commitments if we cannot complete projects.
  o Chair DeHayes - this is a one-time investment, and there is a cost share on the table. In fairness, we cannot implement the new process until next year. This request is not inconsistent to the process in the future. As a reminder, when the subcommittee started with a process of recreating a reinvestment fund, there was discussion of creating a tax. Council decided not to tax/penalize divisions.
  o Project should be completed by June 2013.
  o University’s commitment is up to $1.3M; it is possible that all of the $1.3M may not be used.
  o Motion to support athletic projects. Second, approved. Vote was unanimous.

• Linda Barrett presented an update on the Governors’ Budget for FY 2012 and FY 2013.
  o The SBPC Calendar with Critical Dates was again reviewed and distributed. It is also on the SBPC website.
  o Highlights: State Appropriation is down 30% since FY 07. Revised State appropriation recommended by the governor for FY 2012 is essentially level except for GO Debt Service. Health and Human Services Agency was given an additional $7.4M+ due to “unachieved savings” per the Governor’s presentation of his budget.
  o The FY 2013 recommendation by the Governor for FY 2013 is $500K less than the request, of which $66K relates directly to “Legislative Programs” that are funded through the State Appropriation. This represents a 25% reduction to these programs. The remaining reduction relates to a fringe rate change; thus it has a corresponding expenditure reduction.
  o RICAP, which is in the restricted budget at $13.6M in FY 2012 remains the same in the Governor’s recommended budget.
  o The FY 13 request included $26.6M for RICAP; the Governor recommended $8.2M. many projects were not funded. Vice Chair Weygand reminded the Council that fire safety & protection is a serious need and it is also a legal issue.
  o State appropriation accounts for 8% of our total budget.

• Teams were randomly chosen for the divisional presentations. Teams as follows:
  o Academic Affairs – Trish Morokoff, Michael Smith, Tom Dougan
  o Admin & Finance – Ron Jordan, Scott Martin, Bob Beagle
  o Athletics – Cheryl Foster, Ken Kermes, Peter Alfonso
  o President’s Division – David Coates, Faye BB, Don DeHayes
  o Research & Econ Development – Trish Casey, Ray Wright, Robert Weygand
  o Student Affairs – Nancy Eaton, Thorr Bjorn, Abu Bakr
  o University Advancement – Steve D’Hondt, Jeff Johnson, Winnie Brownell

• The Minutes from January 24 were reviewed and approved with minor edits.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:08 am

Next meeting date
March 27, 2012 10:00 am -12:00 pm