Members/Staff in Attendance:

Don DeHayes, Robert Weygand, Abu Bakr, Robert Beagle, Thorr Bjorn, Faye Boudreaux-Bartels, Winnie Brownell, Trish Casey, David Coates, Steven D'Hondt, Tom Dougan, Cheryl Foster, Ron Jordan, Ken Kermes, Glen Kerkian, Patricia Morokoff, Stephen Swallow, Raymond Wright, Ann Morrissey, and Linda Barrett

Members Absent:

Peter Alfonso, Jack Szczepanski, Jeff Johnson

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

Meeting Minutes:

a) Meeting called to order at 9:12am by Council Chair Don DeHayes.

b) Chair DeHayes called for any additions or corrections to the Minutes from the June 8, 2010 SBPC meeting.

   i) Stephen Swallow suggested Page 2 item b at the top be changed. Discussion ensued and the section shall be changed to read, "Information, with any factual corrections, will be posted to the SBPC website as soon as possible after each meeting". Further discussion regarding this item may ensue in future meetings.

b) Stephen Swallow suggested that Page 2, item 1.b.ii. be changed to read," Chair DeHayes stated that it is a misnomer to say that the state doesn’t support research and it is important that the council is clear on this. One example is the state's support of buildings".

c) Stephen Swallow suggested that Page 3, item 2.b.iii. be changed to read," It is not uncommon that lecturers act as advisors. All tenure track is not affordable and fulltime lecturers would be here full time".

   d) A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the amended minutes with additional grammatical corrections.

Budget Presentations

c) Administration & Finance - Presented by Council Vice Chair and Vice President of Administration and Finance, Robert Weygand. The presentation will be made available on the SBPC website.

   a) Discussion ensued relative to the presentation.

      i) Outsourced electronic payroll system vs. in-house. Vice Chair. A major issue is each time there is an upgrade to our PeopleSoft system, all other initiatives in the pipeline must halt.
ii) The real savings of this "paperless" initiative? Vice Chair Weygand indicated that although there would be staff savings he has elected to request the electronic system and maintain the staff.

iii) Streamlining and centralization of Accounting Office staff with respect to GSO.

iv) Bio-Safety Management and the need to teach and train faculty and staff of safe handling of hazardous materials.

v) Compensation cost of janitorial and maintenance staff. Classified employee fringe benefit costs are approximately 70% of salary. This is one reason why outsourcing can pay off economically.

vi) The pricing of the Roosevelt project. Construction industry factors are built into the estimates to allow for inflation.

d) Student Affairs - Presented by Vice President of Student Affairs, Thomas Dougan. The presentation will be made available on the SBPC website.

a) His presentation included the following information:

i) Vice President Dougan stated that each goal listed consists of numerous strategies which were omitted from the slides for brevity.

ii) Roger Williams Wellness Center which reflects the anticipated total annual budget for staff and operating. Note that the center will not be operational the entire year with an anticipated opening in December 2011. Project originally estimated at $4-$5.9M for one level and 14,000 square feet; has since changed to $11M for two levels at 29,500 square feet. The source of funding is $2M from private donations and $9M from auxiliary fund balances. The construction cost is $237 per square foot and is estimated at $7M. The remaining $4M relates to non-construction costs and is estimated at $136 per square foot; thus the total project including construction and non-construction costs is $373 per square foot.

iii) Equipment for the center includes free weights, machines, and cardio equipment. Vice President Dougan indicated that it is possible the project will be under budget. If that is the case, he advocated for the available project funds to be utilized to purchase the equipment. Otherwise, Vice President Dougan is requesting $750K for equipment from the general fund.

b) Discussion ensued relative to the presentation:

i) Talent Development Guaranteed Admission Program (GAP) and the $250K request for funding in 2012. Currently, the university has a $220K grant from the RI Department of Transportation to support the program. The program ensures high school students take the appropriate courses and attain a “b” average or above to receive guaranteed admission to URI via the Talent Development Program. It is a very effective community outreach program and should be supported as a top priority. The bulk of the cost of the program is for 4 full time staff members. The request for funding would replace the grant, as it is anticipated to end. A request was made that the Council receive the graduation rates of these students.

ii) The request for a career advisor. URI is behind when compared to our peers. This office works closely with internship office. This position, among other duties, will prepare students for internships. If Academic Affairs can be deeply integrated into this area, career advising
for undergraduates will be effective. Career Services encompasses academic, pre-
professional and graduate clientele.

iii) The equipment for Roger Williams Wellness Center with respect to alternative funding such as auxiliary fund balances. Vice President Dougan explained that indeed, using auxiliary fund balance is a possibility; this must be discussed with the Controller and Vice President Weygand. Keeping healthy fund balances translates into good bond ratings. Another alternative is to institute a new recreation fee. It was mentioned that it is unlikely students would pay a recreation fee for the existing recreation building given its condition. This would have to be considered after the new facility is in use. It was also noted that most gym memberships are much more than the $80/student in estimated tuition that support recreation currently. Also discussed was private fund raising in addition to the $2M in gifts already received. Vice President Dougan indicated that there were still naming opportunities as well as other potential for further fund raising.

iv) Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Center (GLBT) funding. Vice President Dougan said that his request for additional general revenue funding did not include a request for GLBT because there is a plan in place to acquire private funding of approximately $30K.

v) Counseling of students considering graduate school. Currently, there are no dedicated counselors for graduate students. Pre-grad counseling must be revamped as well as Pre-Professional counseling. Students need to know what classes to take to be prepared for GMAT or GRE.

e) Athletics - Presented by Athletic Director, Thorr Bjorn. The presentation will be made available on the SBPC website.

a) His presentation included the following information:

i) Relative to a weight room, Thorr indicated that he would present a request for a funding plan to the Council at a future meeting.

b) Discussion ensued relative to the presentation:

i) The fundraising incentive system and how it might be changed to benefit both academics and athletics. Perhaps a similar model as is currently used with PI’s and grants.

ii) The condition of the basketball courts in Mackal. The floor is liquefying on one court and it is difficult for students to get reasonable court time on the functional courts. Council members requested the number of students the courts served. This information would be forwarded.

iii) Athletic scholarships: How they are distributed: Thorr said that not all student athletes receive full scholarships. Each sport has its own rules and regulations on whether full or partial scholarships may be distributed. It would benefit the university if we find ways to supplement athletic scholarships with other college scholarships

iv) Adding hockey to URI’s roster of sports. Thorr stated that hockey is an expensive sport to implement and it takes years to become successful. Given the investment required, it is unlikely that hockey will be added.

v) The integration of student athletes with main student body population. Thor stated that student athletes are already very much integrated; it may not appear so as most athletes
are not recognized as such. He is open to suggestions and discussion about how to further progress in this area.

f) Further Business
   a) Chair DeHayes reminded the Council to take an "institutional perspective" when deliberating these budget requests for fiscal years 2012 and 2013. Also, he reminded the Council that the undertaking of the group is to prioritize the items presented. It would also be feasible for the Council to propose alternative funding for some items or to propose alternative spending timelines or amounts if it makes sense for that item.
      i) He reiterated that members should not lobby for "favorite items."
      ii) He mentioned that priorities should be deliberated as a whole, not by division. Perhaps the Council should consider thinking in terms of categories of priorities.
      iii) How much money is available to fund these priorities is not paramount at this time. That information is not known yet. If a priority item is determined by the Council to be a keystone item, then at that point perhaps reallocation is an alternative.
   b) Discussion ensued about the need for all the (corrected) requested items from each division be provided in one spreadsheet. Chair DeHayes said this would be provided to the Council.
   c) Discussion ensued if the Council would deliberate cuts in order to make room for initiatives presented. Chair DeHayes stated that the Council was not geared up to make cuts at this time.
   d) Chair DeHayes said that in addition to the meeting listed on the SBPC website as of this date, an additional meeting is scheduled for August 31, 2010 from 9am-10:30am. President David M. Dooley would present his final decisions for FY 2012 and FY 2013.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:24pm

**Required Action Items:**
1) Post (corrected) Divisional Requests & Presentations on the SBPC website

**Information Requested:**
1) Fiscal years 2012 and 2013 (corrected) Divisional requests on one spreadsheet.
2) Summary report that includes all funding sources by Division.
3) The graduation rates of the students in the GAP Program.
4) The number of students served in each available basketball court.

**Next Meeting Date:**
Tuesday, June 22, 2010 1pm - 4pm in the Galanti Lounge, 3rd Floor University Library

**Next Meeting Agenda:**
1) Approval of Minutes from June 16, 2010 meeting
2) Discussion and deliberation in preparation for recommendations to the President for FY 2012 and FY 2013.

See SBPC website for additional meetings and agendas posted.
Minutes by: Cheryl Hinkson, Associate Director, Budget & Financial Planning 6/16/10