

**Faculty Senate/University Council Resource, Space and Budget Committee Minutes**  
**Friday, February 2, 2018, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Altgeld Hall 125**  
**Northern Illinois University**  
**DeKalb, Illinois**

**Voting Membership Present:** Bateni, Boughton, Doederlein, Duffin, Hunt, McHone-Chase, Millhorn, Nicholson, Slotsve

**Voting Membership Absent:** Chmaissem, Maddali, Riley, Wang, Wilson

**Other Membership Present:** Heckman, McGill, Peterson, Pinkleton

**Others Present:** Freeman, Haji-Sheikh, McCord

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair **S. McHone-Chase** called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Acting President Lisa Freeman and Acting Provost Chris McCord

Discussion Questions:

1. Q. The way that Program Prioritization was initially discussed, 20% of all programs (on administration side and academic side) would go into each category (Enhance, Sustain, etc.), and also we would be repeating the prioritization cycle on a somewhat frequent cycle—I had heard every five years. Provost McCord spoke quite differently, however, at the Leadership meeting and at Faculty Senate, talking about how Program Prioritization would work with program reviews, accreditation, and the like, and how we don't have any of this firmed up yet. So it has changed? Could you speak to this?
  - A. Structured as recommendations, not mandates—to avoid Lake Woebegone effect. Make Considered Recommendations, use the whole scale. Going forward, continue to use the spirit of Program Prioritization, but maybe not the language.
2. Q. In the original Administrative Task Force Report, Building Maintenance received Enhanced, while Building Services received Transform. This was agreed with in President Baker's Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> 2016 Progress Report. Provost McCord discussed reductions in personnel in Building Services at Senate. In what ways have these staff reductions "Transformed" Building Services?

A. Savings were found in different utilizations, skilled cleaning done by skilled workers, less skilled by less skilled workers. Started in May of last year, resulting in 2 million dollar savings. “Manageable level of cleaning standards.”

3. Q. How much progress has been made on finding the new space for the Asian-American Resource Center, and, once it is found, what will happen with the old space? Is there a projected cost for finding a new space?

A. Space has been found in the Telephone and Security Building. ARC likes it, and they’ll move around Spring Break. Cost of the move is about \$100,000. No firm plan yet for the old space.

4. Q. Does the proposed rescission for fiscal year 2019—my understanding a figure of \$20 million—include space for a salary increase for staff and faculty?

A. Not simply a rescission, but we are budgeting for assumptions. Merit increases are being considered.

5. Q. The NIU Foundation missed their projection for unrestricted scholarships to the tune of \$4.2 million during the current fiscal year. This number was charged back to the entire campus. What measures were taken to make sure that these “overly aggressive” projections are not repeated?

A. The original, bolder estimate was based on no appropriations, and was relaxed to a more conservative estimate when appropriations actually occurred.

6. Q. Can you discuss the impact of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) on the Resources, Space and Budget Committee?

A. This committee is shared between FS and UC. Trustees and chairs and such will take training for OMA, and chairs might. We’ll need to publicly post our agenda ahead of our meeting, and while we can add info items at the time of the meeting, we cannot take action on those items at the same meeting. We need to give provision for public comment at our meeting. It’s important to give public confidence that we aren’t doing business in secret (not majority of quorum). If you’re ever wondering—seek counsel. You can go into closed session to discuss such matters, but you cannot take action there, then.

Last comment: Collaborative Budget Planning Process will be on Feb 19<sup>th</sup>; they will provide materials so we aren’t walking in cold.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. RSB designee needed to serve on the Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee – The CSEQ Committee meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Lowden Hall 304.

Jim Millhorn said that he would serve.

2. Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee update – Hamid Bateni Bateni reports that police are trying to increase visibility on campus and patrol off campus. A light survey on campus is mostly done, and campus security guard/police hiring is done.
3. University Fee Review Committee update – George Slotsve Cathy/George are working on putting this ad hoc working group together to looking at the feasibility of a proposal of student “cultural fee.” They have reps lined up for Theatre/dance/music—still need art rep. First meeting is Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:00. Jim and Donald discuss idea of Library fee – Larry says think about student affairs. If students say that they ok with this idea, then they are ok with it.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Michael Haji-Sheikh briefed the group on salient points of the Open Meetings Act.

### **UPCOMING RSB MEETINGS**

1. The RSB Committee meets monthly on Fridays at 10 a.m. in Altgeld Hall 125. Remaining 2017-18 meeting dates are: **Mar 2, Apr 6 and May 4.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**