**This template is provided as guidance in assisting committees to satisfy the reporting requirements found in Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article III, Section 2. Please note the following applicable provisions:**

***The Chair of each Faculty Senate Committee shall report at least once each semester to the chair of the Executive Committee regarding the business conducted by the Faculty Senate Committee….***

***It shall be the responsibility of committee chairs to monitor their committee membership’s status and any vacancies (whether occurring by repeated absence, leave of absence, resignation or retirement), and promptly report any occurring vacancies to the Senate leadership.***

**Email completed reports to** [**facultysenate@unt.edu**](mailto:facultysenate@unt.edu)**.**

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**Report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee**

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**Mid-year report Year-end report**

**Date: May 2, 2018**

**Committee Name**: **Faculty Senate Budget Committee**

**Chair or Co-Chairs: Jesse Robertson**

**Meetings for the term/year**: **October 6, 2017; October 13, 2017 (email), November 27, 2017; March 5, 2018; March 19, 2018 (email)**

**Membership and Attendance** (year-to-date attendance record):

**[These column and row titles may vary based upon the nature of the committee composition]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group Represented, committee office, if applicable** | **Name** | **Department or administrative unit affiliation** | **Term End**  **(if applicable)** | **Meetings Attended** | **Meetings Absent (# Excused)** |
| Chair | Jesse Robertson | ACCT | 2019 | 4 | 1 |
| Co-chair | N/A |  |  |  |  |
| Secretary | N/A |  |  |  |  |
| Group I | Nadine Kalin | AEAH | 2019 | 5 | 0 |
| Group II | Todd Enoch | LIBR | 2020 | 5 | 0 |
| Group III | Huguette Tran | MATH | 2019 | 4 | 1 |
| Group IV | Yu (Kelly) Shi | DPA | 2019 | 0 | 5 |
| Group V | Jesse Robertson | ACCT | 2019 | 4 | 1 |
| Group VI | Rossana Boyd | TEA | 2020 | 4 | 1 |
| Group VII | Zuoming Wang | COMM | 2019 | 3 | 2 |
| Group VIII | VACANT |  |  |  |  |
| At-large 1 | Jyoti Shah | BIOL | 2020 | 2 | 3 |
| At-large 2 | Kevin Yanowski | LIBR | 2019 | 5 | 0 |

**Accomplishments (including items submitted for review or approval to the Executive Committee or Faculty Senate):**

* October 2017: The committee met to elect the committee chair for the year and discuss how to fulfill the committee charges for the year. Jesse Robertson was elected chair.
  + Charge 1: Each committee member requested their faculty senator send an email to his/her constituents requesting faculty input on priorities for future expenditures. The objective is to help the committee prepare for its meeting with representatives from the UNT budget office by obtaining faculty input.
  + Charge 2: Rossana Boyd volunteered to represent the budget committee in working with the Faculty Salary Study Committee by serving as a liaison to that committee.
  + Charge 3: The budget committee will report to the Committee on Faculty Participation in Governance as it sees the need to do so.
  + Charge 4: Nadine Kalin volunteered to represent the budget committee at budget hearings, schedule permitting. The other committee members agreed that at least one other person would try to fulfill this responsibility when Nadine cannot.
  + Charge 5: Jesse Robertson will provide reports to the Senate Executive Committee, and Nadine Kalin and Kevin Yanowski volunteered to represent the budget committee at Senate Executive Committee meetings.
* November 2017: The committee meet with Provost Cowley and Bob Brown to receive feedback on concerns raised by the faculty regarding the UNT budget. The main topics of discussion were:
  + PhD stipends are much lower than peer schools, which hurts our research reputation. UNT’s decision to not cover health insurance for PhD students compounds this problem, especially for international students.
    - The Provost agrees, and wants to work on improving this situation, but it will be a multi-step process.
  + Salary compression is an urgent issue at the Professor and Associate levels.
    - The Provost’s salary study will address this.
    - The College of Business is where the issue is more acute.
    - This will need to be addressed at the college level.
  + Given its budget, Career Connect should develop expertise in finding internships for College of Science students so COS faculty can devote their time to teaching and research rather than finding internships, which should fall under the umbrella of Career Connect
    - This does not fall directly under Career Connect.
    - Many colleges have felt their internships were their property and were reluctant to share them with the wider university.
    - The Provost’s office and academic affairs is working to broaden this out.
  + UNT’s facilities and administrative rate agreement with the federal government says a percentage of indirect cost funds go to library services. It seems UNT has not seen any of this funding, which would be in violation of our agreement with the federal government, and not funding our collections and services to the extent warranted by federally funded research.
    - The Provost and Mr. Brown have talked to Tom McCoy about this and are looking at how grant budgets are set up. They think too much money is going back to the PI and not to Indirect Cost (IDC) funds. Historically, PIs have not used their discretionary money as effectively as they could, although it has not been spent incorrectly and could be spent correctly in other areas. IDC money does not specifically mention libraries, which are supported form various other funds that also involve research.
  + Deans should review their budgets with their colleges at least once a year, and department chairs should do the same with their departments. Transparency is key
    - Provost Cowley and Mr. Brown will bring this up to the Deans, and are planning a midyear budget review with all the colleges at which time they will remind them of transparency.
    - They are working on training and hiring better financial officers at all levels to help better manage funds.
      * They want to make sure financial people are helping with financial decisions
      * The new chart of accounts will also help make things more transparent
  + Do we have funding allocated to assist multi-year lecturers of foreign nationalities on H1B visas? If they do not obtain a green card before the visa expires, they will have to leave not only UNT, but the USA.
    - Provost Cowley stated that her office issued an alert that said that they can assist multiyear lecturers on a case by case basis.
      * The university will provide the minimum of support and the lecturer will pick up the remaining cost.
  + Is there a process to review resources allocated to vice provosts to determine if the funding is being used efficiently and effectively?
    - Each Vice President has to report on any changes they make with the budget in the area they manage.
    - On the Vice Provost side, Dr. Cowley will be going through this review processes for the first time this year.
      * She has looked at spending already.
      * She will make sure there is accountability here too.
  + Faculty travel funding is very low for our aspirations as a Tier One Institution.
    - Travel funding depends on the individual college or department.
    - Transparency of allocation is key.
  + The review of institutes needs more transparency so faculty are aware of new initiatives off campus.
    - When new ones were recently created, Dr. Cowley sat down with Tom McCoy to talk about review
    - There was no clear timeline in place, but one is being established
    - Dr. Cowley will continue to talk with Tom about this
    - IAA is now separate from UNT on the Square and is managed under the Provost by the Arts College.
* March 2018: The committee meet with Mary Ann Barber in to receive input from the Faculty Senate Salary Study Committee to fulfill the Faculty Senate Budget Committee charge related to working with this committee.
  + Mary Ann provided an update on the Faculty Salary Study Task Force, of which she was also a member. The creation and activity of this task force coincided with the Faculty Senate Salary Study Committee’s request to the Administration for data involving the possibility of salary compression. She expects Provost Cowley to release the task force results later this semester. The task force compared UNT faculty salary data to CUPA data for twenty similar self-reporting universities. Mary Ann said the primary findings of the task force were:
    - There are no statistically significant pay equity issues related to gender or diversity.
    - Salary compression exists in the College of Business at the associate professor rank.

However, what criterion and regression methods were used by the Faculty Salary Survey Task Force to reach these conclusions is unclear to the Faculty Salary Study Committee.

In addition, Mary Ann stated that The Faculty Salary Survey Task Force has recommended to the President and upper administration that department chairs discuss individual faculty members’ current salary relative to their existing market value in their annual performance review of the faculty. In cases where a significant difference exists, the chair should provide a plan on how the university will bridge the salary gap.

* April 2018: Select committee members (Nadine Kalin, Kevin Yanowski, and Jesse Robertson) met with Provost Cowley, VP Bob Brown, and Vice Provost Robert Watling to discuss budget forecast and priorities for next year (Fiscal Year 2019). The Provost had invited Jesse Robertson to attend, and asked him to invite other members of the committee at his discretion. Therefore, I am not including this as a regular meeting of the committee. Jesse invited Nadine and Kevin based on their positions on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, which gives them knowledge of university-wide issues and opportunities. The main topics of discussion were:
* Budget will be constrained
  + Legislative portion will remain the same (non-legislative year)
  + No general tuition increase
* Differential tuition will be implemented in various areas
* Other fees are increased (see below)
* Enrollment should be up a little bit
* Bob will give his final report on the budget about 100 days before the start of the fall term
* The budget will increase $3-4 million in new money
  + If we can trim down other areas, that will open up more money
* The budget will be tight but not problematic
  + No hiring freezes or cuts
* Retention numbers are down
* Masters enrollment was flat for 10 years
  + This was because many applications were left un-processed
  + They are using the Toyota partnership to help streamline and improve this process
  + Masters applications are up .8%, admissions are up 29%, and declines of applications also have increased
    - Suggests the process is becoming more efficient
* Differential tuition was approved for four areas
  + This can be used for faculty hires
  + Some of this money goes to the unit and some goes to the provost’s office
* Fee Increases
  + Undergraduate Advising fees
    - Hiring 14 new advisors
    - Reclassifying others
    - Some will be transfer student specific
  + Distance Education Fee
    - Will apply to the first 6 hours of credit
    - Will be used to hire staff to support online learning
  + Library use fee
    - Was not increased since 2003
    - Will be used to invest in journals and boost collections
    - Hire some new librarians
    - Invest in building renovations
* Three priorities for next year’s budget considerations, in no specific order
  + Investment in Frisco
  + New Program enrollment and growth (From an Academic Affairs standpoint)
  + Research Faculty
* No large administrative cost increases
  + The new VP for Digital Strategies will come from the new Distance Education fee
* Research Faculty
  + These are not targeted hires
  + They are based on filling needed areas and faculty requests
* Salary Equity study
  + Will happen every three years
  + Equity adjustments have been made for assistant professors
  + Equity adjustments for tenured faculty will begin next year
  + Librarian Faculty will have a study starting in the fall
* Faculty would like more transparency in how budget decisions are made at the various levels
  + This issue can depend at the college or departmental level, as various administrators have different ways of disseminating information about their budgets
* This year will be the leanest year in the last five (in terms of new money)
* Everyone would like more PhD stipend support
  + It is just hard to do within the current budget
* Students want more online courses during the summer and then typically one during the long semesters
  + We are trying to meet this increased need
* Frisco Campus
  + Will be a satellite campus (like Discovery Park)
    - UNT plans to apply for this designation in 2019, but this is not a firm commitment
  + Will help transfer students and professional masters students
  + It can house its own programs, including
    - Business programs
    - Sports management
* Future of differential tuition
  + They would like to expand it to more health related fields, including
    - Counseling
    - Speech and Language Pathology
  + Tuition Task Force (heading up by Bob) is examining various issues, including
    - Current tuition
    - Eagle Express
      * Overall this program is successful
      * But we have hampered a bit by how successful it is
      * Should it change or stay the same?
    - Differential tuition
      * Could programs use fees instead?
    - Other fees around campus
      * A number of fees need an increase such as library fees and parking fees
      * Consider putting them on a schedule of gradual increases to avoid large spikes when they do increase
    - Student fees
      * They are asked for by students
      * President has final say, but is in communication with student concerning these and their approval
* Vision beyond next year
  + Net Dragon has cash flows back to UNT
    - % of app sales
    - % of music sales
  + We need to invest in things that will provide a good return and not just look good from a PR standpoint
  + Opportunities for the Bachelor’s in Sports Management
    - UNT has largest sports management enrollment in the region
    - UNT has partnerships with the Dallas Cowboys and the Texas Motor Speedway to develop a premier sports management curriculum

**Ongoing/future projects: [bulleted list or narrative]**

* 2018-19: obtain faculty input regarding concerns about the UNT budget using a similar approach as in fall 2017, and continue meeting with Provost Cowley and VP Bob Brown to discuss those faculty concerns.