

Meeting Minutes
Governance Steering Council – Budget Town Hall Meeting
April 10, 2013

Present: Dan Gerlowski, Amirah Muhammad, Giordana Segneri, Chris Spencer, Margarita (Magui) Cardona, Robert Bogomolny, Harry Schuckel

Absent: Mohammed (Shiraz) Ahmed, Debra Stanley

1. President's Report

- 7.7% increase in the overall state budget; 8.3% increase expected for UB.
- 3% COLA approved for January 2014.
- 2.5% Merit Pool approved for April 2014 – UB hopes to increase this pool by 0.5-1.0%
- Enhancements to the USM budget are earmarked to specific activities
- Langsdale renovation was approved
- Presidential priorities:
 - The only clear commitment at this time is for new faculty hires and mandated increases for maintenance and health costs
 - Technology renewal and replacement
 - Strengthening safety and security
 - Financial aid
 - 3% increase in undergraduate tuition
 - Marketing and recruiting
 - University infrastructure, including Gordon Plaza enlargement
 - Extended education startup expenses
 - On-line education

2. Vice President for Administration & Finance's Report

- Fund balance contributions of \$1.7M are mandated by USM
- Operating contingency – recommended by the budget taskforce
- Tuition remission for employees
- Budget Call deadline extended until April 26

3. Fuller and richer content of the Faculty, Staff, and Student priorities were presented at the Town Hall. The presentation itself is available on the Governance Steering Council Web page. The following items are an accurate summary of that presentation.

4. Faculty Priorities – The UFS Priorities for all future budget allocations made at this time are drawn from the University of Baltimore Academic Plan and are respectful of the presidential commitment to expand the number of University faculty given past enrollment growth.

- Student success and career readiness
- Foster collaboration across academic divisions
- Understand and harness the power of emerging technologies for learning.

- The above three goals are pulled from the goals available in the University's Academic Plan. The UFS endorsed a caveat regarding faculty resources necessary for widespread and sustained pursuit of these goals.
5. Staff Priorities – The UB Staff Senate supports the budget priorities forwarded to the University Budget Committee. However, it is difficult for us to rank these priorities with no knowledge of the approximate cost of each item. That said, we would like to highlight our support for the following priorities:
- UBSS supports increased staffing for the UB Police Department to meet accreditation requirements.
 - UBSS supports University funding of an additional 1.0 percent merit salary increase. We further support ongoing efforts to attain salary equity where salary compression or current market rates cause our existing salary structure not to be competitive, and we encourage the administration to consider utilizing any additional funds to support these efforts. This also supports the University's preferred workplace initiative and will assist in retaining excellent faculty and staff, which will become increasingly challenging as the economy improves.
 - In addition, the UB Staff Senate would like to suggest inclusion of another institutional budget priority:
 - Along with new faculty positions, UBSS supports dedicated funding for new staff positions to adequately support enrollment growth, both past and future, and to support any additional faculty positions as a result of the institutional budget priority.
 - Finally, the UB Staff Senate would like to underscore the very real possibility of funding impacts from the Affordable Care Act.
6. Student Priorities
- Continuing education
 - On-line education
 - Course redesign initiatives
 - Innovation and entrepreneurship
 - Closing the achievement gap and other retention efforts
 - Career counseling and internships
 - Keeping facilities updated and current
 - Sustainability efforts