

Minutes of April 27, 2018 Meeting

The meeting convened at 3:02 p.m. in 817 Cathedral of Learning.

UPBC members present were: Patricia Beeson, Livingston Alexander, Tammeka Banks, Keith Caldwell, Gerald Holder, Kathleen Kelly, John Lyon, Dean Nelson, Arthur Ramicone, Andrew Stephany, Alex Toner, Jean Truman, and Franklin Wilson

Also present were: David DeJong, Cassandra Brenner, Thomas Crawford, Charles McLaughlin, Leslie Gumbita-Miele, Nancy Tannery, Kathy Tosh, and Thurman Wingrove.

UPBC members not present were: Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, William Kory, Maximillan Kneis, Catherine Lamberton, Douglas Landsittel, Arthur Levine, Wesley Rohrer, Gregory Scott, Kornelia Tancheva, Shreyas Vamburka, and Chad Zutter

Provost Beeson informed the committee this was her last University Planning and Budgeting Committee meeting. She also noted it was Art Ramicone's last meeting as well.

Minutes of the March 12, 2018 Meeting

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2018 meeting. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Seed Project Funding

Leslie Meile thanked the reviewers and UPBC subcommittee members for their assistance in narrowing the pool of Seed Projects to recommend to the Chancellor. She stated 171 total applications were submitted, including 127 with faculty PIs (74%), 44 with staff PIs (26%), and 6 received from a regional campus. The applications were reviewed by 125 volunteers, who narrowed the pool to 72 applications, including 60 with faculty PIs (84%), 12 with staff PIs (16%), and three from a regional campus.

A selection of UPBC members served on a review panel to narrow the applications further, and to develop selection parameters for the Chancellor's consideration. The panel recommended that funding awardees should:

- Represent the highest quality/excellence
- Reflect the entire University – all campuses
- Include a mix of applications with faculty and staff principal investigators
- Include a mix of applications with representation across all six goals within the Plan for Pitt

The panel narrowed the application list to 58, including 49 from faculty PIs (84%), 9 from staff PIs, and 2 from a regional campus. Categorized by goals within the Plan for Pitt, the breakdown of applications is as follows:

Plan for Pitt Goals	Primary Goal per Application
Goal 1: Advance Academic Excellence	15
Goal 2: Engage in Research of Impact	20
Goal 3: Strengthen Communities	9
Goal 4: Promote Diversity and Inclusion	5
Goal 5: Embrace the World	7
Goal 6: Build Foundational Strength	2

Report of the Chair

Provost Beeson noted additional grant funding opportunities available in support of the strategic plan. Personalized education received 44 applications in response to a call for proposals, and 15 were funded. Course incubator awards funded 3 proposals designed to restructure large-lecture courses to heighten student engagement. Longstanding Innovation in Education awards are also supporting educational initiatives.

Beeson noted that Provost area schools and units have submitted annual updates on their strategic plans, and the Provost Area’s Planning and Budgeting Committee (PAPBC) is now reviewing the updates and providing assessments to the Provost.

Tom Crawford informed the committee that fundraising is ahead of last year by 20-25% year-to-date.

Beeson updated the committee on admissions, noting that admissions on the Pittsburgh campus is 3% ahead of last year, amounting to roughly 100 students. Deposits are up 9% from out-of-state students, while in-state deposits are flat. There is an 18%-20% increase in deposits from underrepresented minorities, including 9%-10% among African Americans and 50% among Hispanic students. Academic qualifications have also increased among depositors, reflected by a double digit increase in SAT scores. Admissions at UP Bradford and Greensburg have bounced back after declining the previous two years.

Parameters Subcommittee update and recommendation

Dean Holder, chair of the Parameters Subcommittee, thanked Art Ramicone’s team for their efforts in providing critical input for the Parameters Subcommittee. Holder presented the recommendations of the Subcommittee, which assumed flat funding from the Commonwealth:

1. Tuition increases of 2.5% for in-state students and 4.75% for out-of-state students on the Pittsburgh campus; and 2.0% for all students on the regional campuses.

2. An allocation of \$2,000,000 for programmatic academic initiatives to provide important funds for investment in our most critical priorities.
3. An increase in the salary pool of 2.25%.
4. An additional increase in the faculty salary pool of 0.5% to advance academic initiatives.

The Subcommittee also recommended that the salary increase pool of 2.25% be allocated so that 1.5% goes to maintenance of salary, and 0.75% goes to merit/market/equity.

Recognizing the uncertain political and economic environment in which the University continues to operate, the Subcommittee also offered explicit support for use of discretion in responding to unanticipated changes in the budget outlook. Specifically, should there be a decrease in our Commonwealth Appropriation, the Subcommittee supported upward adjustments in their recommended tuition rates, particularly for in-state students on the Pittsburgh campus. In response to budgetary impacts from sources other than the Commonwealth Appropriation, listed in order of recommended emphasis, the Subcommittee recommended adjustments to the salary pool, cuts to the E&G budget administered at the Senior Vice Chancellor level, and adjustments to proposed tuition rates. If the salary pool is to be adjusted downward, the Subcommittee recommended that consideration be given to disproportionately supporting the salaries for those faculty and staff earning less than \$46,000 (the federal standard under which a family of four qualifies for the federal reduced-student-lunch program).

Member vote on the Parameters Subcommittee recommendation

A motion was made to approve the recommendations made by the Parameters Subcommittee. There was no discussion and the motion was passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m