



**President's Planning and Budget Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes – April 17, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Chris Ziegler. President Papp distributed copies of the proposed FY10 budget plan. Gamadanis and Sookram provided a walk-through of the budget. KSU's budget office will be reviewing it in detail in the weeks ahead. Papp noted that the proposed budget appears "comfortable" but given KSU's historical lag he's not sure how much, if any, ground was gained. (See Budget Handout)

Papp addressed some additional USG changes that will take effect in FY10 – Fixed-for-Four has been eliminated, and the SUS is changing the number of hours for which students must pay full cost of tuition. In previous years the SUS required students to pay for 12 credit hours, and all credit hours above 12 were free. Students must now pay for 15 hours and above 15 hours will be free. The Federal Government definition of full-time status – 12 hours – has not changed. The big question is how the phraseology will come from the USG. Papp also noted that KSU is holding 3% for possible additional FY10 budget cuts. He will provide the campus community with a budget summary as soon as accurate information is available. In the meantime, he emphasized that cost saving measures should continue. Proposed FY09 Reductions by Division were revisited. Suggested cuts will carry forward into next year. However, based on current information we can cover funding requests made last November, assuming that the priorities remain the same.

There is still concern that KSU continues to lag behind in funding. Strategic oriented and data driven decision making needs to continue at the BOR level. Papp will evaluate the numbers to see if we are still in the basement compared to other schools. If so, the USG will be made aware of these continuing discrepancies.

The proposed FY10 budget, originally discussed and approved by the PPBAC at its November 18, 2008 meeting on a preliminary basis, was approved.. Papp recommended spending \$50K of this money to prepare for an upcoming accreditation site visit – a lab is needed at Chastain Point and space can be leased for \$50K. While funds are available to convert this space, the rental fee will be an on-going expense. The Committee agreed that this would be funds well spent. ***The expenditure of \$50K (recurring annually) for lab space at Chastain Point was approved.*** This approval leaves \$80K in unallocated funds to be divided up. There are two campus safety issues that need to be addressed. KSU has an inadequate number of police officers based on enrollment (short 14), and we have a lower base pay scale than other area departments which affects retention. Funding is needed to 1) address salary issues for existing staff, and 2) increase the number of staff in the department. Ziegler noted that given the current constraints, KSU police do an outstanding job.

Rascati asked if the practice of vacancy lags will continue, and if so, could these funds be used to offset the deficit? While that is a possibility, Black suggested that we continue with all austerity measures until state revenues improve. Individual circumstances will be considered and allowances made where necessary. Some positions need to move forward, especially in circumstances where the position is vacant (such as the EEO position). Current practices will be continued and revisited during the fall PPBAC session.

Papp noted that in previous months, because of BOR/Legislative criticism, billboard advertising had been suspended. Because sister institutions continue to use local billboard space, Papp has instructed University Relations to find strategic billboard space for *target-specific* program advertising.

It was noted that approximately \$150,000 had been saved in FY09 due to the December/January holiday closing. The question was asked whether this practice should be continued for FY10. This topic will be reviewed and revisited in the near future. The event and athletic calendars must be reviewed to determine what might already be scheduled that would impede this process.

Papp updated the Committee on the state's plan to merge technical schools, and the Governor's proposal to merge some technical schools with some USG two-year institutions to create traditional community colleges. The first technical school merger occurred between Chattahoochee, North Metro and Appalachian Tech, which makes Chattahoochee the largest technical school in the State. This merger is expected to save between \$1M and \$1.5M. The textbook definition of a community college is one where an institution offers both technical education and academic education at one institution under one roof. The logic is that if a technical student discovers that he/she needs academic coursework, the switch can be made easily, and vice versa, without any loss of headcount to the institution. There is a move afoot to evaluate and possibly go forward with this concept. Primary targets at this time include Atlanta Tech and Atlanta Metropolitan Community College, South Georgia College and Douglas Tech, and Gainesville State College and Gainesville Tech. Based on the level of concern and misinformation expressed in today's meeting, Papp will communicate with Robb Watts to alert him to the concern, confusion and misinformation that exists.

Birgit Wassmuth announced that a documentary will be airing about a KSU alumna who went from a life of adversity to college graduate, with the message being that education is the key to survival. It will be previewed on campus and will be aired statewide on the GPB network.

The next PPBAC meeting will be held on May 8th from 2:00pm to 3:30pm in the President's Boardroom.

Today's meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

LKJ