Budget Committee
Agenda

Wednesday January 12, 2022 at 9am
https://cofc.zoom.us/j/89803793481
Meeting ID: 898 0379 3481

In attendance: Bob Pitts (chair), Suzanne Austin (Provost), Julie Davis, Todd McNerney, Yaron Ayalon, Jonathan Neufeld, Agnes Southgate, Simon Lewis, Adam Jordan

Meeting began: 9:04am

- Academic Affairs program approval process – Continued
- Committee input for annual AA budget priorities
  - Dr. Austin clarified that CofC has a mandate to build a sound reserve fund.
  - Concerns continue over the rate of adjunct pay. Dr. Austin expressed her opinion that this should be prioritized.
  - Dr. Austin expressed that last year, approvals from her office prioritized funding positions in the Honors College that were previously funded on soft money.
  - Todd McNerney expressed that the prior points are evidence to the importance of why the CofC budget committee should be instrumental in the budget process in a proactive manner.
  - Dr. Austin agreed, pointing to the flow chart she provided prior to the winter 2021 holiday break.
  - Dr. Austin also pointed out the need for addressing facility needs along with other goals (raises, etc).
  - Simon Lewis asked about recurring strategies for student debt reduction. Dr. Austin clarified that some one-time money could help immediately based on budget meeting outcomes in Columbia, but long-term strategies are currently unknown.
  - Bob Pitts pointed out that the governor’s message called for a tuition freeze, which could be problematic. Bob also clarified that at CofC, the provost position is not in a chief operating officer position. Dr. Austin added that the president is an academic, with a commitment to academics and faculty. Dr. Austin expressed that the president is committed to faculty raises.
  - Discussion of institutional processes proceeded, with notation about a need to continue clarification efforts.
  - Agnes Southgate asked if the committee could meet with the RCM consultants (Kennedy and Co.).
• Proposed School of Health and Human Performance
  o Tabled

• Faculty Salary Increases in Future College Budgets – Importance in College Budget and Merit allocation processes.
  o Formally tabled, but see notes and comments above from provost

• Faculty Budget Committee and 5 Year Budgeting for Strategic Reserve and Strategic Investment
  o Recommendation for the budget committee to give two updates each year to the senate (fall and spring)

• RCM Update - Role of Faculty Budget Committee and procedures under RCM
  o Tabled