

Budget Principles Task Force Meeting

Minutes – 5/7/20

Task force members in attendance: Kim Walsh-Childers (chair), Rita Men, Cynthia Morton, Churchill Roberts, Talia Rogers, Matt Sheehan, Ryan Vasquez, Alex Wilkerson

Others in attendance: Jeff Pole, Lyly Rodriguez, Moon Lee, Ted Bridis, Mary Ann Ferguson, Harrison Hove, Joanna Hernandez, others?

The meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. Sheehan moved to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2020, meeting; Roberts seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously, with changes suggested by Sheehan.

The task force discussed and approved revisions to the wording of some of the budget principle statements committee members had developed. Task force members were asked to seek feedback and comment on the principles from the units/departments they represent. Sheehan sent a pdf of the principles, as currently stated, to all members to forward to their respective departments or units. In addition, the task force agreed to host a “town hall” meeting, to which all faculty would be invited, on Tuesday, May 12, to give faculty and staff members an additional opportunity to discuss the principles and the process. The task force also agreed that, following the town hall meeting, the chair would send all faculty and staff a survey asking them to rate the importance of each of the principles; this was meant to enable the task force to reflect faculty/staff opinion about the principles if the final report sent to CJC administrators presents the principles in hierarchical order. The task force agreed that faculty and staff should be assured that survey responses were anonymous, so that everyone would feel comfortable commenting and offering suggestions. The task force discussed the possibility of presenting the principles unranked, on the grounds that every one of the principles is of crucial importance to the college’s future.

There also was discussion about the possibility of including in the final report a discussion of approaches some other universities are taking to budget cuts, including asking for pay cuts or short-term furloughs from faculty and staff or, in some cases, only from administrators.

Sheehan presented an explanation of the complexity of the college’s budget structure, which all task force members agreed was extremely useful. Sheehan agreed to present the same presentation again at the town hall meeting.

The task force agreed to a final meeting Thursday, May 14, at 2 p.m. to discuss the town hall meeting feedback, the results of the post-town hall survey, and how to structure the final report to the deans.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3 p.m.