

Faculty Senate Finance and Planning Committee Year-End Report – 4/25/19 Meeting

Committee: [Dr. Lissa Power-deFur](#), [Dr. Brett Hursey](#), [Dr. Steven Samaras](#), [Professor Jeff Halliday](#) (Chair)

AAUP Budget & Planning Forum – Recap & Recording

The committee thanks Dr. Bill Abrams and Longwood’s representatives of the Virginia Conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) for hosting their annual spring forum, held on April 15. Our committee assisted with the event, and recognizes President Reveley and Dr. Lara Ferguson for presenting and addressing questions. An estimated 45 people were in attendance and topics ranged from academic department budgeting, refining roles and compensation for program coordinators, salary increases/compression, Civitae, moving to a banded tuition model, financing for the Brock Center, concerns related to staff cuts and workload, among others. The forum lasted just over 75 minutes and was audio recorded, with a file submitted for Senate record & [hosted online publicly via SoundCloud](#).

Key Takeaways

- President Reveley stated the [Board of Visitors](#) will be discussing moving from charging by credit hour to a banded tuition model. The Board recently announced a [tuition and fees-related meeting](#) on May 17.
“The Longwood University Board of Visitors will meet on Friday, May 17, 2019 in Stallard Board Room. The Board expects to take action on tuition and mandatory fees for the 2019-2020 academic year. Rate increases of between 0 and 5.0 percent will be considered. Any increase would be required to meet increased costs related to essential services such as utilities, costs related to employee compensation, and costs related to implementation of student services that help keep students on track to graduation.”
- Dr. Ferguson announced the total pool of monies for faculty salary raises is \$550K.
- Dr. Ferguson discussed how the review of the roles, responsibilities and compensation of program coordinators is focused toward accreditation and assessment, while stating separate ‘honoraria’ monies will be available for compensating faculty for other forms of departmental service.
- President Reveley stated the remaining funding of the Brock Center will be covered through the refinancing of existing debt, boosted by retiring debt services, while also referencing additional philanthropic giving.

Forum topic overview, speakers addressing the topic, & the times for each are detailed below. Speakers are identified by initials: President Reveley (TR) & Dr. Ferguson (LF)

- Welcome by Dr. Bill Abrams (00:00-:30)
- General budget & higher education overview from TR (00:30-6:42)
- LF discussing Academic Affairs, department allocations, program coordinators, salary/compensation and honoraria monies for faculty (6:43-18:44) – TR discusses AP/classified salaries (18:05-18:27)
- Questions on percentages of salary increases, follow-ups on communicating raises to faculty and evaluating faculty based on current criteria, salary compression, and receiving updated CUPA data (18:44-26:14)
- LF discussing Civitae Core Curriculum rollout, scheduling and faculty positions (26:15-36:24)
- TR discussing university enrollment, funding for higher education across the state, financial stability, a banded tuition model versus the current by-credit-hour tuition model, and three strengths & three challenges facing Longwood in the future – *Strengths*: Enrollment Stability, Commonwealth Support, Philanthropic Giving – *Challenges*: Demographics, Remaining People-Focused, Increasing Tuition & Fees (36:25-51:20)
- Question about timetable for banded tuition model decision – addressed by TR (51:21-52:27)
- Question about banded tuition model credit range for tuition – addressed by TR (51:28-53:20)
- Question about transition to new model & Commonwealth oversight – addressed by TR (53:21-53:45)
- Question about Commonwealth allocation for maintenance, E & G monies – addressed by TR (53:46-55:55)
- Question about funding total cost of Brock Center, philanthropic monies, Real Estate foundation refinancing existing debt, upcoming debt service retirement for several buildings – addressed by TR (55:56-57:41)
- Question about competing for students in Northern Virginia – addressed by TR (58:15-1:01:35)
- Question about concerns with staff budget cuts & compensation – addressed by TR (1:01:36-1:04:25)

Question about facility upkeep & replacement – addressed by TR ([1:04:38-1:08:06](#))

Question about the marketplace for nontraditional, older student population & distance-education related issues facing Longwood & higher education – addressed by TR ([1:08:07-1:15:16](#))

Updated Admissions Figures

Acknowledging the fall semester deposit deadline for first-year students is May 1, this report's listed numbers are as of 4/23/19, with all following information provided by Vice President Kindon. For fall 2019 enrollment: Freshmen submitted applications 5,330, with 4,353 completed; Transfers submitted applications 433, with 270 completed. Deposits as of 4/23 totaled 715, with 645 freshmen and 70 transfers. Students that paid a deposit but changed their mind (9 total) are not included in that total. The targeted goal for the incoming class is 1,050 (give or take 50), and 105 transfers (give or take 10). According to the administration's predictive models, they indicate a class size from 952 to 1,014 to 1,056. VP Kindon wrote that number will become clearer closer to the May 1 deadline, as well as the May 10 postal mail/late deposits deadline.

For comparison, in [last year's April Senate report](#), the numbers on 4/12/18 were 626 total deposits for the incoming class, with an expected class size of 1,090.

University Planning Council – Finance Subcommittee & UPC Meeting Takeaways

Our Senate committee works in conjunction with the [University Planning Council](#) (UPC), with each of us additionally serving as members of the UPC's Finance Subcommittee. Our Senate committee met with Dr. Ferguson on Monday, April 15 in advance of the forum & the UPC, as a whole, met on Thursday, April 4. The following are some key takeaways from these meetings related to the Finance Subcommittee.

During 4/4 UPC Meeting:

- President Reveley opened the meeting by discussing the importance of developing strategic priorities for the university, with a mind on ensuring its strength for decades to come. He stated the focus of this UPC meeting was deliberating those strategic priorities, in part to help inform the Board of Visitors. He stated during their [June meeting](#), the Board intends to complete a one-page, new strategic plan. (['14-'18 plan](#))
- Points discussed during the UPC meeting related to Finance & Planning were the changes in the college-attending population of students and university tuition and fees, cost of living for students, developing a stronger enrollment strategy while marketing signature academic experiences, fundraising, continued investment in the growth of the Farmville community, and providing more resources to students.

During 4/15 Senate Committee Meeting with Dr. Ferguson:

- Dr. Ferguson discussed her plan for that afternoon's forum, specifically detailing information regarding the changes for program coordinators, salary raises, and concerns regarding merit and compression.
- Dr. Ferguson discussed Civitae while addressing committee concerns regarding its impact on departments and the evolution of its rollout.
- The committee and Dr. Ferguson agreed to schedule monthly meetings beginning in August.

The next UPC meeting will be held in October.

Fall 2018 Budget Forum Presentation

Submitted with this report to be added to the Faculty Senate website are slides that accompanied Dr. Ferguson and Vice President for Administration and Finance Louise Waller's presentations during the Fall Budget Forum on October 30, 2018. The slides cover: Education & General Financial Overview, the Auxiliary Financial Overview, Portfolio Cash & Investments, as well as academic department, Foundation and Civitae budgeting information, and brief historical data on full-time faculty salaries with snapshots from 2008, 2013 and 2018.

Links to This Year's Reports

The Finance & Planning Committee reported to Senate on [September 6](#), [October 11](#), [November 1](#), [November 29](#), [February 14](#) and April 25.