

Faculty Senate Finance and Planning Committee

Faculty Senate – 9/7/17

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

Fall Enrollment Figures

Our committee sought updated Admissions figures for the Fall semester and, according to Melissa Shepherd, the university submitted early enrollment estimates to SCHEV of 1,066 first-time freshmen for the Fall. That's a slight downturn or 'melt' from the first-reported number of 1,105 as the numbers shook out once school got under way. Freshmen applications for Fall 2018 are at 623, which I understand is an all-time high and up 63% from this time last year. Regarding transfer students, this Fall's number is 207, which is just slightly lower than where we tend to land. Last year's number was 228, and was 211 in 2015, according to Vice President for Strategic Operations & CIO Victoria Kindon.

Planning a Fall & Future Budget Forums

Last semester, the Senate Finance & Planning Committee, working in conjunction with the AAUP & Vice President for Administration and Finance Ken Copeland, hosted the annual budget forum. Through immediate feedback we collected, we learned some faculty/staff were interested in more opportunities to discuss financial matters publicly. In response, our committee is working to host a Fall Forum focused on timely faculty and staff concerns. Later in today's Senate meeting, Dr. Neff will be updating us on budgets. Our committee has chosen the topic of departmental budget allocation as the focal point for a Fall Forum later this semester. I've reached out to Dr. Neff & Mr. Copeland, both are open to the idea and I want to thank them for their quick responses and willingness to participate. My goal is to have our committee meet with them soon in order to plan the forum, with an announcement of date, time & location at the October 12 Faculty Senate meeting.

In addition, our committee has discussed future forum topics regarding the funding of Core Curriculum, and gaining more understanding of the solicitation and use of Foundation funds.

University Planning Council

Our Senate committee works in conjunction with the [University Planning Council](#) (UPC), with each member serving a dual role as a member of the UPC's Finance Committee. The entire UPC will meet on Thursday, Oct. 19 at 3:30 p.m., location TBA. In advance of that meeting, VP Copeland plans to schedule a meeting for the UPC's Finance Committee. Tentative dates of January 18 and April 12 are being held for the year's remaining UPC meetings. Please remember these meetings are open for all to attend.