**AGENDA**

Regular Meeting of the CU Denver Downtown Campus Faculty Assembly’s

Budget Priorities Committee (BPC)

Zoom

November 14, 2023, 10:30 pm – 12:00 pm

BPC Attendees: Joanne Addison (chair), Kelly McCusker (secretary), Dan Hodges, Todd Ely, Katherine Gunny, Miloje Radenkovic, David Hildebrand, Alan Davis, David Tracer, Jody Beck

Guests: Ann Sherman (Executive Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration), Anthony Wilson (Finance & Operations Manager, College of Arts & Media, Staff Council Representative), Lucy Dwight UCDALI Rep)

* **Welcome 10:30 – 10:35**
  + Approval of October meeting minutes
* **Update on Provost Working Groups? 10:35-10:45**
  + Academic Program Viability – Joanne
    - No decisions made, a lot of information to review.
  + Workload Parity Group – Katherine
    - Has not met yet.
* **Update from Ann Sherman 10:45-11:30**
  + Enrollment/Budget update
    - Fall 2023 preliminary enrollment as of 9/4/23 is - 3.7% below Fall 2022, under the June budget by 0.9%
      * Anticipated 4.1% below.
    - Graduate enrollment has softened, decreases in both new and continuing.
      * Decrease in international graduate enrollment.
    - This is not uncommon across the US (see screenshot at end of document)
    - When Boulder opens their waitlist, our enrollment decreases. Those students are enrolled in general studies, not a specific program.
    - Boulder gets 3.5 times more funding per student than CU Denver does.
      * System level support is not the same based on campus.
      * Alumni base is not the same as Boulder’s, we’re not gifted much.
    - People are taking retirement buyouts, losing tenure track faculty. Retirements don’t seem strategic.
    - Retention also seems to be an issue.
    - Looking at grants, especially to support graduate students.
      * Question: How much does funded research actually support the campus?
    - Admin Divisions are taking 2.6% across the board.
      * Some are too small to take this cut, but still cutting across the board.
    - Reserves: faculty are unaware of the size of the campus reserves or how it gets replenished so we cannot provide feedback on that point without improved transparency.
  + Administrative Pay Transparency
    - Questions about higher-level admin spending persist. It would be ideal to avoid repeating last year and avoiding CORA requests. Possibilities?
      * Presenting a count of individuals (admin, faculty, staff) who make more than a certain salary amount adjusted for inflation over time. That could be an arbitrary number like $175,000 or it could be a set salary percentage threshold (those at or above the salary for the university employee at the 5th percentile, or something like that).
      * Another option is to just present a count of Assistant VC or above titles across the campus as a crude measure of high-level administrators. Just some quick thought
    - Historical interest in admin staffing and salary decisions.
    - Independent efforts to gather salary data, including NACUBO data.
    - In FY 23, Jen presented data about admin salary, number of positions, and changes in titles / work.
    - Made progress, but not exactly answering the questions on campus. And this has produced a lot of questions about how the data was pulled and analyzed.
    - It’s about transparency and accountability and who gets hired and why, faculty might want input and the investment. This also affects morale.
    - Will return to this topic.
* **Faculty Business 11:30-12:00**
  + Spring meeting schedule
    - Joanne will send out Doodle poll.
  + BPC leadership
    - Need a new chair for next year.
  + Shared governance around budget in each school and college
    - Various levels of shared governance across schools / colleges / library.
    - Business school is starting a BPC with both faculty and staff based on these conversations.
    - Difference between being elected and appointed.
    - Transparent faculty led the process.
    - Faculty seem more interested in the budget now, maybe organically.
    - What do we want to do with this information?
      * Check in again in the spring.

Moved to Next Meeting

* New Business
  + Strategic Plan Goal #3: Become internationally known for our research and creative work
    - How is this being reflected in our budget decisions, especially with the loss of a significant number of faculty? And not just in terms of sponsored research?

A close-up of a paper

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