To be received and placed on file:

From September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019, the Committee on Planning & Budget (P&B) met a total of 19 times, with a typical meeting length of 1.5 - 2 hours. The Committee discussed and considered several business items from the campus and from Office of the President.

Campus level review subjects:

- P&B reviewed and supported FTE transfers for 5 faculty.
- P&B reviewed and commented on the summary white paper on the RUSD STEM high school on UCR’s campus.
- Transfer of and Changes to the LGBIT Studies Minor Program – P&B did not feel the transfer and changes being proposed had any negative budgetary impacts and supported the changes.
- UCR Multi-Year Framework – P&B was profoundly concerned about commitments to growth without adequate resources. P&B was also alarmed by the lack of stated ambition for expanding PhD programs. Moves to online education driven by a resource gap was concerning. The committee expressed their concern that the Senate was asked to respond to last minute requests instead of being consulted on the planning of the campus from the beginning.
- Proposed Degree Program – Master of Science in Business Analytics (2nd round) – P&B noted the proposal does not mention indirect costs or return-to-aid. P&B also mentioned needing clarification about the campus policy on self-supporting programs returning funds to the campus before making final comments.
- Department name change – Earth Sciences – P&B voted in favor of the proposed name change.
- Provost’s Taskforce for Hybrid and Online Education Final Report – P&B unanimously agreed the report was not an adequate blueprint for guiding an expansion into online course and curriculum development. The committee provided an extensive response to the report that outlined their concern for the lack of questions considered, analysis, consultation and consideration.
- Endowed Term Chair for Teaching, Research and Service in CNAS – P&B voted in favor of the proposal.
- Proposal for a Medical and Health Humanities Minor (2nd round) – P&B was supportive of the proposal.
- Transfer of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration to the School of Business – P&B reviewed and commented on two versions of this proposal. The committee felt that the five-year plan and steps taken to mitigate budgetary impacts on CHASS promised an effective transition. P&B was also supportive of the second version of the proposal.
- Proposed Degree Program – Master of Science in Business Analytics (3rd round) – P&B noted that the revised proposal devotes 10% of tuition revenues to return-to-aid and sets
indirect costs at 30.7%. The committee was supportive of the proposal in its revised form. However, it was noted that the determination was made in the absence of the campus policy regarding standards for evaluating appropriate levels of return-to-aid and accounting for indirect costs.

- Proposed New Undergraduate Major – Data Science – P&B requested confirmation that the Deans will plan to work together to provide TA support. The costs for the program were well accounted for at the modest enrollment target of 50 students. However, P&B wondered how this number was set and if 50 represents a cap on enrollment and how higher enrollments would be supported.

- Thoughts on UCR Strategic Plan – P&B provided a detailed response on the way the UCR Strategic Plan should be handled. It is of paramount importance for the Academic Senate to be intimately involved in all stages of this process, including in the ongoing preparations.

- WASC Commission Action Letter and Report and UCR Response – P&B felt that the points raised by WASC were valid. The committee was alarmed that there were no efforts underway to establish a new strategic plan when WASC visited campus. The committee was more concerned with the campus’ ability to carry out program assessment and that task falling on a single person than it was over the necessary budget model refinements requested by WASC.

- Joint Public Policy BA/MPP 5-Year Combined Degree Program – P&B was supportive of this new program proposal.

- Proposed Bylaw Revision to Bylaw Appendix 5 (5.3.1 and Addition of 5.3.11) – P&B found the policy outside of the committee’s purview; however, the committee noted that adequate staff will be required to fully implement the policy.

- Proposed Budget Model Refinements – P&B reviewed the proposed revisions to the budget model and provided several comments and questions for consideration pertaining to salary and benefits, credit hour weighting, recharge rationalization, graduate (MA) incentives, PhD support as part of the budget model, facilities renovation and support, performance funding, assessment and auxiliary units, and undergraduate non-resident tuition.

Systemwide level review subjects:

- Proposed Policy – Principles of Accountability with Respect to Financial Transactions – P&B reviewed and commented on two versions of this proposal. The committee felt the proposal was outside of their purview and declined to comment.

- Proposed Revised Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment – P&B felt the proposal was outside of their purview and did not provide comments.

- Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-46 (Use of Vehicles and Driver Selection Policy) – two versions were reviewed – in the first response provided by P&B, the committee noted that the new policy mandates various forms of training but there is no discussion of who would be responsible for developing the training programs and associated costs. In the second version, P&B had the same response as this had not been clarified in the revised proposal.
Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations – P&B expressed general concern that open access could affect long term research results with open access to short term research publications. Many members felt the campus and UC policy should be in line with UC Berkeley’s policy in which a two-year embargo is the default (versus a suggestion to have students choose to opt in).

Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 336 – P&B members expressed concern over the expectation for faculty with 9-month appointments and research commitments to adhere to the new timelines in the event hearings occur during the summer. Members also felt that shortened timelines may minimize the chances for mediation at earlier stages in the process.

Proposed Revisions to Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment Academic Frameworks – P&B did not have any specific comments that pertained to the committee’s charge.

Report Review – UC Center Sacramento – The committee found the review and proposals for investment to expand and improve the program thoughtful and persuasive. The proposal reflects the UC mission of research, teaching and service in unique and significant ways that justify the investment to expand. However, it was noted that there is a low level of UCR student participation, and the committee was interested in what the program offers to encourage UCR’s students to attend.

Report Review: Research Grant Program Office – Current State Assessment Report – P&B supported the finding of the report that the Research Grant Program Office should remain in the Office of the President to ensure equitable and impartial distribution of funds. P&B also noted that staffing remains a challenge and the report offered no clear resolution.

In addition, The Chair of P&B met with the Chair of Graduate Council, select members from Graduate Council, the Vice Chancellor of Planning & Budget, and the Associate Vice Chancellor of Financial Planning & Analysis about the campus’ policy on self-supporting programs returning funds to the campus.

P&B invited the Vice Chancellor of Planning & Budget and/or the Associate Vice Chancellor to attend a portion of their meetings once per month.

P&B also met with all Academic Deans and select non-academic unit heads to discuss the yearly budget process and future plans and projections for the unit. The committee produced a final report to the Academic Senate Chair and members of the administration of their findings after meeting with the Deans and unit heads.

The committee Chair also participated as a member on the campus’ Governance Committee, which reviews unit budget requests annually.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Kinney, English, Chair
Harry Tom, Physics & Astronomy, Vice Chair
Adalberto Aguirre, Sociology
Rogerio Budasz, Music
David Eastmond, Molecular, Cell & Systems Biology
Yawen Jiao, Business
Covadonga Lamar-Prieto, Hispanic Studies
Nosang Myung, Chemical & Environmental Engineering
Mikeal Roose, Botany & Plant Sciences
James Tobias, English
Akula Venkatram, Mechanical Engineering
Francisco Zaera, Chemistry