



**DATE:** April 25, 2017

**TO:** Speaker Stuart Sims, the Academic Senate, and the General Faculty

**FROM:** Stuart Wooley and John Brandt, Chair, Faculty Budget Advisory Committee

**RE:** Year-End Report for AY 2016-17

The Faculty Budget Advisory Committee (FBAC) reviewed university spending priorities and budget recommendations, proposed an academic senate resolution on budget priorities, and provided feedback to other committees.

We reviewed the priorities identified by the Academic Senate/FBAC during AY 2015-2016 and examined how they were addressed in the budget recommendations of UBAC and President Sheley's response in the summer of 2016. Issues highlighted include proposed optimal targets for tenured/tenure-track faculty, including an average of 18 WTU's teaching assignment as well as a 75% overall density of tenured/tenure-track faculty. Another concern identified was the status of psychological counseling on campus, including the number, long-term retention, and appointment status of Psychological Counselors.

The committee compiled recommendations for budget priorities which were discussed in Academic Senate and approved as a Sense of the Senate Resolution. These priorities have been forwarded to the University Budget Advisory Committee (UBAC), and include the following items identified as central to supporting the university's mission:

- Maintain maximum possible access for qualified students, including admission to campus and access to courses required for degree completion;
- Raise the percentage of tenured/tenure track faculty FTEF (as per ACR 73) to 75% (most recently measured at 60.7% as of fall 2016) while reducing the student/faculty ratio;
- In order to effectively support the central mission, adequately fund tenure-track psychological counselors, tenure-track librarians, and career services advisors;
- Fund adequate assigned time for tenured/tenure track faculty to allow an average of 18 WTU's teaching assignment thus allowing time for expected research, scholarship and creative activities, professional development, and community engagement;
- When hiring lecturers prioritize full time appointments over part time appointments when possible and appropriate to enhance long term teaching, contributions to department, and student learning experiences;



- Institutionalize activities previously funded by grants and other one-time funds that contribute to student success such as CECE, PACE and FMP;
- In consultation with faculty, implement the best practices identified by the graduation rate initiative which are most meaningful to our campus;
- Fund campus activities that honor and promote diversity on campus and the neighboring communities;
- Hire a Dean (or at a minimum a Director) of Graduate Studies and Research, enhancing leadership and oversight of Graduate programs in campus planning and administration, program outreach, assessment, program review, research, and development.

We discussed the staffing of Psychological Counseling Services, including concerns of regarding the number of counselors available as well as the type of appointments of new hires. By the beginning of fall term, the number of counselors reported by Director Dan Berkow met the target student:counselor ratio recommended in American Counseling Association standards. AVP Ted Wendt discussed the role of probationary (tenure track) versus “temporary” (1 to 3 year contract) appointments, and the associated classifications, retention, and long-stability of psychological counseling positions.

We examined the feasibility of setting more precise targets to reach the goal of 75% tenure-track density set by ACR 73 and subsequent CSU and CFA statements. Discussions highlighted the volatility of the tenure-track “density” ratio, due to the significant fluctuations in state budget and resulting staffing levels, especially for contingent faculty, and that Stanislaus has historically had one of the higher tenure-track:part-time faculty ratios among CSU campuses.

We discussed the WASC survey of FBAC members regarding campus policies and practices, and how to identify available evidence for the areas identified and where to find this evidence to include as part of the accreditation report.

Our final discussions centered on two things. First, the financial impact of the sense-of-the-senate resolution on the Right to an Education Free of Fear and Harassment. The committee suggested edits to make the document more flexible with regard to the financial impact. Second, we discussed purchasing the Interfolio product to be used for electronic submission of RPT files. For a number of reasons, FBAC recommended funding that software.

I would like to thank:

Daniel Davies, Brandon Demers (ASI Rep.), Andrew Dorsey, Cenap Ilter, Provost Greer, Saejoon Kim, Victor Luevano, Brent Powell, Speaker Stuart Sims, Provost



Strong, Kim Tan, Richard Weikart, Christopher Vang and Isabel Silveira Pierce,  
Administrative Analyst for their service.

Respectfully submitted,

John Brandt and Stuart Wooley  
Chairs, FBAC 2016-17