

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 19, 2021, 3:00 pm

Present:

John Palmer (Chair)

Tarek Saab

Galia Hatav

Mattieu Felt

Fahad Qazi

Jorge Valdes Kroff

Christopher McCarty

Uma Sethuram

Unable to attend: Catherine Tucker (Secretary), Thomas Knight, Daniel Talham, Jose Ponciano Castellanos

1. Call to order and approval of minutes of the previous meeting.

- a. Meeting called to order at 3:02P.M.
- b. Meeting minutes unanimously approved.

2. Conclusion of group presentations of reviews of draft unit OPS request reviews (Group 5).

- a. Group 5 (Hatav + Tucker)
 - i. **Note:** Catherine Tucker absent
 - ii. No information provided from Portuguese department – It is completely handed by professors and lecturers, meaning no GTA funding is needed.
 1. This is due to low enrollment
 - iii. McCarty - Classics department requested budget that had less than half of department base allocations.
 1. Suggests that departments, due to new processes have reevaluated their need for OPS funding.
 2. This was also seen in Political Science department's budget along with other departments, providing need for follow-up to ensure that these requests are correct.
 3. Palmer - Some departments have requested significantly more than previously needed.
 - a. Example: Chemistry asking for 44% more, or \$200,000 more than last year.

3. Discussion of general issues -

- a. Uma Sethuram - \$17 million OPS funding total without factoring in Economic department.
- b. McCarty –
 - i. English + UWP have complicated relationship –
 1. UWP used to be part of English department, with expectation that graduate TA support comes from English budget.
 - a. Two outputs – Teaching undergraduates to write, graduate level outputs that will teach writing.
 - i. Manifests itself within multiple classes that have two GTAs assigned, with one mentoring the other to produce GTAs that are experienced and trained to teach.
 - ii. English employs GTAs using both GTA budgets and RA budgets, with justification being that this is how department has always done this process.
 1. Beginning Spring 2022 – English will employ all GTAs using CLAS FC GTA workload classifications.

- c. **Palmer** – Opened up opportunity for groups to make corrections needed to draft reports, with only Group 1 (Saab+Felt) and Group 2 (Palmer+Qazi) replying.
 - d. **UF Online Funding** –
 - i. College does not distribute funds into base OPS, with no links between UFO and OPS as a result.
 - 1. Exists as an oversight in the requests sent from FC to departments at the end of 2020-2021 year.
 - ii. Distance Learning –
 - 1. People were leveraging UFO classes to offer distance learning to residential students, with Psychology dept. having multiple sections that are distance learning and exist in online format.
 - a. Example given: GTAs distributed across both UFO and CLAS OPS budgets while teaching for classes with multiple sections.
 - e. Clarification needed on total amount of funding supplied to departments as base OPS funding.
 - i. McCarty - \$17 million without funding provided to Economics dept.
- 4. Next meeting:**
- a. Clarification needed on department requests to gain synoptic view of recommendations being made in draft reports by sub-groups, while also considering OPS base total without Economics department requests.
- 5. Update on request for additional information from the College –**
- a. History Dept. still has not provided any updates regarding its requests. Unlikely that all departments will get back to CLAS FC before end of semester.
 - b. Chemistry, English, History, LLC, Linguistics, Political Science, Sociology, Criminal and Law, and Portuguese all regarded as incomplete, with further instructions from FC Chair Palmer on how to proceed.
 - c. CLAS FC does not have numbers of departments that either must return OPS funding at the end of the year or need more OPS at the end of the year.
 - i. FC Chair Palmer suggested that this might be useful going forward.

Meeting adjourned at 4:02P.M.