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UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
FACULTY SENATE

5 MAY 1997 MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll - The following Faculty Senate members were absent: Anderson, Burger, Cote, Forest, Greenlaw, Gross, Guidry, Hiller, Macieski, Miller, Morgan, Moynihan, Pugh, Schwab, and Zabarsky. Senator Berenguier was excused.

II. Discussion on the Budget - Vice President for Finance and Administration Candace Corvey said that her goals on the budget are clarity and candor; stability and predictability through a five-year plan; simplicity and efficiency; avoidance of micro management; standardization and consistency of budget formats; elimination of bracket budgeting by implementation of a reserve contingency fund; regular communication; budgets aligned with reality; and a focus on all funds, not just fund 1000. She intends to send user-friendly financial reports to everyone each fall. Aligning the budget with reality would include areas such as indirect cost recovery and over-budgeting of expected tuition and fees.

In fiscal year 1996, the general operating budget included only fifty-one percent of the UNH budget. Internally designated funds and auxiliary enterprises were twenty-two percent; restricted funds were nineteen percent; and loans, endowments and plant funds constituted eight percent of the budget which totaled approximately \$280,400,000. Thus all funds must be reviewed, not just fund 1000.

The Whittemore Center and the New England Center have deficits, which are expected to be retired from their own revenues. Running long-term deficits is a form of inter-fund borrowing and reduces the short-term interest that can be used by the university. Campus reserves and end-of-year fund balances will be reviewed. There have been changes in the post-retirement medical program, which will reduce the university's liability in that area on a gradual basis, ultimately to zero.

The Vice President for Finance and Administration emphasized the importance of reality checks when budgeting.

Vice President Corvey reviewed for the Faculty Senate the UNH budget and compared the way the System and UNH view the budget. At the present time, UNH pays seventy percent of the System budget, although UNH has the same vote as Keene, Plymouth, the System, and the College of Lifelong Learning. The System tells us how much we must spend on repairs and renovation. Also, the operations of the College of Lifelong Learning in the System appear to compete with those of the Division of Continuing Education at UNH.

In fiscal year 1996, half a million dollars was carried forward to fund the administrative services redesign which will include space renovations, training, improved technology and desktop equipment. The Office of Financial Affairs is working on the financial information in the parking proposal and in the document on sustainability, in order to confirm or refine the calculations before the president reviews the proposals. The Vice President for Finance and Administration would also like to reduce micro managing and enable each college to decide how to use its funds.

A senator said that, in the same way that building projects have contingency funds, UNH should budget contingency funds for collective bargaining as well. Regarding balancing the operating budget this year, the operating budget will have about the same carry forward at the end of this year as last.

III. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.