

University Fiscal Health Advisory Committee (UFHAC)
Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2018
Lighty 405

Attendance: Stacy Pearson (chair); Dan Bernardo, Todd Butler, Michael Craven, Daryll DeWald, Maria de Jesus Dixon, Chris Hoyt, Chip Hunter, Jim Peterson, Savannah Rogers, Greg Rose, Matt Skinner, Phil Weiler, and Kelley Westhoff

Documents Provided:
FY18 Fund Summary and Reconciliation
Financial Recovery Progress Report
Transitioning to a Strategic Budget Model

Discussion of Minutes and Communications

Committee members discussed the level of detail desired in the UFHAC minutes. Given the committee is working in an advisory capacity, it determined that highly detailed minutes were not necessary. However, the committee felt there should be a record of issues discussed and main points made to help ensure the transparency of the committee's work and focus. At the point the group puts forward recommendations, those discussions and actions need to be clearly articulated in the minutes.

Update on FY 17 Results

Kelley Westhoff shared preliminary budget figures in a chart outlining run-rate improvements for core and other funds by area as of June 30, 2018. The committee reviewed the figures and considered the improvements that have been made, as well as the many challenges that remain in the overall fiscal recovery efforts. There was a discussion weighing the need for areas to hit their spending targets with the need to invest reasonably and grow the academic enterprise.

The committee also discussed the need to continue our efforts to use clear language and appropriate graphics when sharing fiscal information with the university community. The committee wants to ensure that everyone at the university has the opportunity to get the full story and that the messages we send resonate with everyone. Similarly, the committee discussed the importance of our external communications to the state, philanthropic partners, and federal agencies and that we must continue to message that WSU is an excellent institution and that it is worthy of ongoing investment.

Budget Process and Model Discussion

Stacy Pearson presented a PowerPoint to the committee and led a discussion concerning fiscal recovery and budget models. Stacy requested input from the committee concerning language used to discuss *why* we need a budget model. Among the points considered was the view that our fiscal recovery should accommodate planned growth and catalyze academic excellence.

The committee also reviewed and discussed the following: several common higher education budget models (with examples from various institutions), challenges with the various models, and reasons why we need to change the budget model. Stacy highlighted the key role that enrollment management plays in all of the models.

The meeting adjourned prior to the conclusion of the PowerPoint presentation. The budget model discussion will continue at the next meeting.