



**BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

October 28, 2008

The meeting of the Palomar College Budget Committee scheduled for October 28, 2008, was held in RS-5. Dr. Dowd called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m.

Roll Call

Budget Committee Members Present: Brannick, Cerda, Claypool, Dimmick, Dowd, Duran, Hishmeh, Lienhart, McCluskey, Sivert, Szames, Towfiq, & Vernoy (for Cuaron)

Members Absent: Kovrig, Madrigal, Tortarolo, and Von Son

Guests: Brent Gowen, Wilma Owens, and Brandi Taveuveu

Bonnie reminded the committee that today's meeting would be limited to 3:00 p.m. so committee members could attend President Deegan's "All College Forum".

I. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of October 14, 2008, were approved as written (MSC: Brannick/McCluskey and will be posted on the Palomar web page as follows: <http://www.palomar.edu/committees.htm>)

II. Action: None

III. Budget

a. Status Update on FY 2008-09 Budget Information

Bonnie shared information with the committee from CCLC & the Chancellor's Office indicating that the budget shortfall is now anticipated to be closer to \$10 billion. The Governor has called a "lame duck" special legislative session to address the FY 2008-09 budget situation, which is related in part to what is happening with the stock market. Bonnie stated that according to Erik Skinner any shortfall over \$3 billion could result in cuts to Prop 98, which would impact community colleges. CCLC and the System Office have put out a call for advocacy with regard to the FY2008-09 budget to minimize mid-year cut impacts as much as possible.

Dr. Brent Gowen questioned if the 10.2% growth being reported in the CCLC communication was correct. Bonnie responded that it sounded high to her also and she wonders if restoration is included in that amount. She indicated that if Palomar gets funded at 2.4% growth in FY2008-09, the increase in funded FTES as a result of the growth would move the college into the "large" college category for base funding calculations.

Bonnie concluded by stating that this state budget climate is different than any she has experienced at the college and it's basically uncharted territory, exacerbated by the economic downturn in industry and Wall Street.

IV. Discussion/Information:

a. Perkins Funding

Wilma Owens distributed a PowerPoint presentation on Perkins Funding – how it works and program parameters used in its allocation (refer to PowerPoint notes distributed for specific information).

b. Fiscal Plan Update

The next item on the agenda was continuation of the discussion on updating the Fiscal Plan published in 2005 by the Fiscal Stability Task Force. Bonnie reminded the committee that the task of updating this plan has been on the agenda for several years now and asked how the committee would like to begin discussion. Brent questioned whether we still want to compare ourselves to the Gooder Colleges, which he doesn't think is a good idea.

Monika Brannick attended the Area D meeting in her role as Faculty Senate President and reported that Senate Presidents in attendance shared the fact that among the major questions asked by accreditation teams have been questions related to budgeting processes at districts/colleges. Brent observed that almost all of the planning agenda items on Palomar's self-study relate to budgeting and that the Budget Committee needs to be central to these discussions of how the budget model might be changed.

Discussion continued on issues that must be addressed when considering budgeting models. For example, Bonnie stated that while Prop M is funding the purchase of new computers for the classrooms and labs, she is concerned about the lack of replacement funding in the budget for computers in the future. Brent stated that technology is getting so integrated into operations, that it makes it difficult to analyze and determine what is spent on technology.

Discussion resumed regarding the Fiscal Plan update. Shannon Lienhart stated that in her opinion, updating the Fiscal Plan should be the Budget Committee's number one priority and we need to be looking at the institutional priorities and the flow of planning agendas. Bonnie responded that a fiscal plan should support a strategic plan and as previously discussed, one way to approach the fiscal plan update could be by having it run one year behind the Strategic Plan for whatever multiple years the Strategic Plan covers e.g., Strategic Plan 2009 expires in 2009. If the next Strategic Plan is for three years to 2012, then the Fiscal Plan could expire in 2011 so the fiscal plan can be reviewed to better support an upcoming strategic plan.

Due to the shortened meeting, discussion on the Fiscal Plan update will be continued at the next regular meeting.

VI. Other

The meeting adjourned at 3:05