

AGENDA
COUNCIL OF DEANS
May 20, 2009
Corbett Conference Room
Meeting Time: 10:00 – 12:00

1. Announcements

2. Topic: Budget Reductions

Attachment: None

Background: I want to have a brief meeting before folks start vacations to discuss preliminary strategies for approaching budget reductions. The news out of Sacramento and Long Beach has been very negative, to the point of proposing campus closures as an option. We need to begin preparing for substantial budget reductions in the coming fiscal year. Here are the issues as I see them:

- (1) Who should be involved in these discussions? My inclination is to have an initial conversation that invites everyone in the Division to participate. We need to tell people what we think the situation is and what the possible strategies are. Later, we will need to involve the relevant groups in specific discussions. What would that process look like?
- (2) One-time vs. base-budget approaches. This makes a big difference. If we approach this as a one-time reduction then we can spend all one-time money this year in hopes that next year will be better. That would mitigate the reductions this year but possibly magnify them next. I think a safer strategy is to try to save some reserves for next year and aim at longer-term reductions.
- (3) What do we target in making the reductions? Part of this will come from direction at the CO level. Do we reduce the number of students or try to maintain FTES? I would like to begin with a discussion of broad strategies and then work toward more specific applications.

Action: I want advice on the process for approaching the budget reductions. I would to come out of the meeting with enough information to develop a specific plan. I want a preliminary conversation about how we are going to approach the reductions. We do not need to have specifics at this time but you need to be thinking about them for the meetings that will begin in June. We will have to develop specific plans at that time.

3. Topic: Summer Planning

Attachment: None

Background: What issues do we want to select to work on this summer and the next year? What follow through do we need on projects begun this year? For the former, the two that come to my mind are (1) Budget allocation models for the Major Budget Units and (2) Program review. For the latter, I have (1) Benchmarking academic departments, (2) college reports on what was done for Category III programs, (3) WASC planning and (4) selecting a set of campus indicators for Access to Excellence.

Action: Your view of the two or three most important new projects for next year and updates on current projects.

4. Other