

Budget Advisory Group Meeting
Minutes
April 29, 2021
Via Zoom

Attendance:

Present:

Deborah Stanley
Rodrick Andrews
Said Atri
Rick Back
Frank Byrne
Mary Canale
Pamela Caraccioli
Dean Crawford
Kristin Croyle
Ebony Dixon
Kristen Eichhorn
Amanda Fenlon
Mitch Fields
Deborah Furlong

Scott Furlong
Victoria Furlong
Jerri Howland
Rodmon King
Prabakar
Kothandaraman
Nicholas Lyons
James MacKenzie
Ellen McCloskey
Sarfraz Mian
Pam Michel
Rameen Mohammadi
Sean Moriarty
Jill Pippin
Julie Pretzat-Merchant
Kelly Roe

Elizabeth Schmitt
Mark Slayton
Mary Toale
Sarah Weisman
Wayne Westervelt
Leigh Wilson

Guest:

Steven Abraham

Not Present:

William Canning
Colleen Dewine
Kristi Eck
Lizeth Ortega Ramirez
Daniel Tryon

Agenda

1. SUNY Oswego Budget 2020-2021
2. NYS Budget 2021-2022
3. HEERF
4. COVID-19 Related Expenses
5. Enrollment
6. Oswego College Foundation
7. Student Emergency Assistance
8. Capital Updates

Welcome (President Stanley)

- We're having this meeting because our bylaws for the Budget Advisory Group call for one meeting in the fall and two meetings in the spring. That was when we had a fairly normalized budget structure, and we weren't as unsure about the state revenues -- we could pretty much figure out where we were going to be -- and if there were going to be any problems we could start talking about how to absorb those problems or to make changes in what we do in order to accommodate the difference in the revenue that we were getting from the state.
- In addition to the revenue from the state, our own revenue comes from our enrollment and our fees and our tuition.

- When I became President, we were down 1000 students, which is where Presidential Scholars came in. It was to increase enrollment at the higher end of the academic scale while rebuilding our enrollment. It worked. We haven't found a key right now for our woes with enrollment and we're going to be looking at that.

1. SUNY Oswego Budget 2020-2021

- 100% of available annual state allocation sent April 5, 2021
 - Projected state tax support cut 5% (\$700k) reduced from expected 25% (\$3.4m) cut
- TAP & Excelsior funding restored
 - Payments for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 are in process
- Enrollment Challenges remain (\$3.7m)
 - Final spring 2021 enrollment update due end of April
 - Current budget reductions sufficient to mitigate effects of enrollment challenges

2. NYS Budget 2021-2022

- No deficit reduction plan going forward
- Discontinuation of Maintenance of Effort (MOE) and Predictable Tuition Plan
- Excelsior support remains at current level
- TAP gap phase out by 2024-2025
 - Ceiling increased by \$500
 - Reduce the annual \$3.4m TAP gap for SUNY Oswego by 2024-2025
- EOP increased support (\$6.4m) across SUNY
- Student mental health funds restored and increased by \$2m across SUNY
- Students with disabilities funding increased by \$2m across SUNY
- Critical maintenance (\$550m) continued
 - Plus \$100m for program enhancement and expansion
- UUP/CSEA raise distribution: estimated amount of \$1m (dates forthcoming)

3. (HEERF)

Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund

Funding Source	Amount	Use	Distributed
HEERF I: CARES	\$3,622,358	Student Emergency Grants	Disbursed by Dec 31, 2020
HEERF I: CARES	\$3,976,870	Institutional Use	Disbursed by Sep 24, 2020

HEERF II: CRSSA	\$3,622,358	Student Emergency Grants	To be disbursed by Apr 30, 2021 (notices sent)
HEEF II: CRSSA	\$9,764,199	Institutional Use	Methodology TBD
HEERF III: ARP	\$11,254,000	Student Emergency Grants	Methodology TBD
HEEF III: ARP	\$11,254,000	Institutional Use	Methodology TBD

4. COVID19 Related Expenses

Item	Cost
Nurses	\$134,280
PPE	\$698,000
Student Workers	\$8,000
Wastewater Testing	\$138,652
Saliva Testing	\$1,353,120
Retrofitting	\$39,720
Other (IT, Signage, Tents)	\$240,675
Total	\$2,612,447

- COVID-19 Testing on Campus
 - Aug. 12, 2021-Jan. 1, 2021: 22,670
 - Jan. 2, 2021-Apr, 22, 2021: 51, 289
 - Conducted on campus total: 73,959
- COVID-19 Vaccination
 - 2,337 students have received at least first dose
 - 900 received second dose
 - 870 distributed on campus

Searches

- Vice President of Student Affairs
- Intercollegiate Athletics Director
- Executive Director of Auxiliary Services
- Faculty searches
- Staff searches
- We have to justify, we have to have a narrative for every search saying why we are searching and not holding the position open.

5. Enrollment

- We're starting to get to the plus side of 2020. We're not quite to the plus side of 2019.
- Enrolled admitted students went down because we have fewer applications.
- First year and transfer deposits – we are doing very well.
- Applications for international students are pretty good but enrollments are not good.
- Graduate student enrollment is doing very well.
- Housing is going to be another thought provoking issue. We have great housing on campus. We are striving to present the best programs, which are under review and change as our students change. The pandemic was devastating to our housing numbers, to the overall campus environment.
- We have to reestablish the fact that we are a residential campus and we're going to be looking at ways to make a difference.

6. Oswego College Foundation

- Endowment is currently over \$55 million (historic high)
- Raised \$3 million thus far this year
 - \$2.6m in cash and pledges
 - \$397,000 in planned gifts
- A certain amount of earnings for us each year are what we pay out the endowed scholarships. We have a 5% spending.

7. Student Emergency Assistance

Student Emergency Fund Donations	
531 Donors	\$215,036
Matching Gift: SUNY Impact Foundation	\$60,766
Heckscher Foundation Grant	\$82,500
TOTAL	\$358,302

Student Emergency Fund Impact	
Student Utilization	392
Amount Disbursed	\$180,795
Students Helping Oz Peers (S.H.O.P.)	
Donors	64
Amount Donated	\$7,168
Student Utilization (unique)	191

8. Capital Updates In Construction

- Sheldon Hall for Extended Learning - \$1.7m

- Move approximately May 1, 2021
- Mary Walker Health Center (Phase 2) – 43m
 - Move approximately end of May/beginning of June 2021
- Sheldon Terracotta - \$14m
- Hewitt Surge Projects - \$1.1m
 - Move during month of June 2021

In Design

- Hewitt Hall (Bidding) - \$28m
- Hewitt Hall Ph. II (Concept) - \$37m
- Hewitt Quad - \$5m
- Rudolph Road Steam Line - \$5m
- Critical Maintenance
 - Roofs - \$2.1m
 - HVAC - \$1.4m

Questions:

Q: Liz Schmitt - Are provisions being taken for international students if they are not allowed in the country in time for the fall semester to start?

A: President Stanley - They could pick and choose courses that they can take online. This will take individual type of advisement and looking at each individual student. I think we can do that with the numbers being so low.

Q: Sean Moriarty - How is the budget going to move forward as we get into April and May?

A: President Stanley – I think it’s going to move forward really well. I don’t see allocations being held up. We don’t have our allocation from SUNY yet.

Q: Julie Pretzat – Is the essential spending justification forms going to ease up soon?

A: Vicki Furlong – This has to come from SUNY. They still have the essential spending justifications in play.

Q: Julie Pretzat – We’ve been so good at not spending money that many of us have extra money at the end of the year that we don’t typically have. I have some projects from last spring (replacement of broken equipment, etc.). Can we spend now or do you want us to still hold tight? How conservative do you want us to be?

A: President Stanley – Priorities are important.

A: Vicki Furlong – Everybody has been doing an amazing job at being fiscally responsible. In a prioritized fashion, if there are investments that need to be made, we should be looking at them and utilizing those dollars.

Q: Rameen Mohammadi – Two really critical things that really will determine our faith in the fall – one of them has to do with required vaccination and the other has to do with distancing. We really cannot operate that three feet, anything higher than three feet in a normal way, we cannot hold then in our classes and labs with the kind of numbers we’re operating based upon.

A: President Stanley – I'm hoping that all of higher education gets really active about this. I'd love to see mandatory vaccinations. We're trying to see how many students have been vaccinated. It would be a better situation if we had massive vaccinations on campus. Everyone would feel more comfortable about being back.

A: Scott Furlong – We had a provost meeting yesterday with system. We were all pushing on vaccinations – students and staff. This raises union issues. We were pushing on three feet or less and we pushed a little bit on study abroad programs. Concern came up yesterday about how a required vaccination might harm enrollment.

Rameen Mohammadi – The question is how much will not requiring vaccination hurt enrollment. I would imagine many parents would be concerned sending their kids to live on campus if we don't have vaccination as an expectation.

Liz Schmitt: Residence Hall problems where someone finds out one of their roommates is not vaccinated and so they're calling Residence Life wanting to switch.
President Stanley – Jerri – Are you seeing that?

Jerri Howland – Yes. That is what we're hearing and it will be a problem if some people are not vaccinated living in the residence halls.

Jim Mackenzie – I think this is also going to tie into the three feet. I think talking about who's vaccinated and who's not, who can wear a mask outside and who cannot. These things are going to be tied into vaccination.

Q: Jill Pippin – I'm curious to know if in the conversations that everyone's having, any discussion has been had about opening campuses to guest speakers, to other types of events, to athletic events with spectators?

A: President Stanley – Those are generally local decisions. As SUNYAC presidents, we've decided no because at the time we were asked to do it, there was guidance about how we have to screen the spectators and we just don't have the personnel to do it and the fact that it's not like high school where the parents and families live in the same community where the students are competing. Most of the virus rates were much higher elsewhere and they would be coming into the community. We felt there would be a lot of community spread. As far as having events, it's not SUNY or the campus' decision. It's the CDC or the state health department.