Budget Transparency Committee meeting, February 13, 2019, 4-5 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Betsy Perabo

**Members Present:** Susan Czechowski, Gloria Delaney-Barmann, Betsy Perabo (Chair), Stacey Macchi, Khaled Zbeeb (via Zoom)

I. **Approval of minutes from 1/23/19 meeting**.

II. **Policies and Procedures:**  These are slated for approval at the 2/14 Senate meeting. No discussion.

III. **Faculty ExCo Report on Quad Cities campus.** Susan gave a brief overview of the report, noting the discussions about the 3- and 4-bucket system for linking SCH to the QC or Macomb campus in the case of extension courses. She noted that given the fact that programs are evaluated under APER, we should also evaluate the QC campus, and, in particular, that the state needs to provide adequate funding to support two campuses. The Executive Board of Senate prepared the report, with information from Letisha Trepac and Angela Boniface.

 Khaled raised a number of concerns about possible omissions or inaccuracies in the report, including:

 1) Engineering has received $600,000 for the QC Manufacturing lab from the State of Illinois, which goes to Macomb; this pays the director and engineers.

 2) QC is a new campus, and has more expenses for new labs; the Carver Foundation has provided a half million, also paid to Macomb

 3) The engineering tech lab has also received $200-300,000; most expenses are not from the state allocation but instead from the Moline Foundation and John Deere.

 4) Deferred maintenance is very high in Macomb and likely zero in the QC

 5) A recruiter for the engineering school is paid by Macomb with money from the Moline Foundation

 6) In general, it is important to break down “state dollars” as opposed to “grant dollars.”

 He also noted that the U of I has expressed interest in programs on the QC campus, and expressed concerns about playing the “blame game.”

 Susan noted that Trustee Lester asked to see this information and that the information has not been gathered in previous years. The concern is that if we have dedicated 10-15% of the WIU allocation to the QC campus, and it has also received foundation money, why has it now grown? We’ve discussed the issues with marketing already, and this may be part of the program.

 We agreed to invite Letisha to discuss the report with us and to review the numbers as a committee.

IV. **Concerns raised about antiquated computer system**

 1) We discussed concerns raised by a former employee, who did not wish to be identified, related to the antiquated nature of the computer system. This individual suggested that WIU was spending millions of dollars to license and support a system from the 1980s. It is expensive to run and puts us at a disadvantage in many areas (including admissions and marketing) when generating different kinds of reports. Khaled is familiar with these issues and will write up a brief description of the program for our next meeting.

V. **Other budget priorities:** We also discussed looking into the following issues:

 a) the budgetary effects of BayHenn/Tanner going offline, with regard to personnel, Sodexo, furniture, etc.

 b) spending on athletics

 c) cutbacks on civil service staff

**V. Future meetings this semester:** Everyone is available on March 6 and March 27 from 4-5, to be held in Horrabin 60 with a Zoom link for Khaled. [We later added a third meeting on February 27, also from 4-5 p.m.]