

Fiscal & Governmental Affairs Committee

MINUTES

December 12, 2008

TELECONFERENCE

Present: Buckley Barrett (Chair), Diana Guerin, David Hood, Fred Hornbeck, Thomas Krabacher (Vice Chair), Catherine Nelson

Guests: Karen Zamarripa (Asst. VC/Advocacy & Institutional Relations), Robert Turnage (Asst.VC/Budget), Barry Pasternack (Exec. Comm.)

Recorder: Barrett

I. **Call to Order:** Chair Barrett called the teleconference meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

II. **Agenda:** The Committee approved the agenda without changes.

III. **Minutes:** The Committee approved our November minutes with changes and corrections from previous e-mail feedback.

IV. **Announcements**

- Barrett mentioned that the new State Net California Roster 2009 already had a preview edition out in print and that the full edition would arrive sometime in the winter. Although we would like to have this final edition by January, Karen Zamarripa reminded us that legislative leaders have not yet filled out all the committees. Tom Krabacher kindly offered to bring copies of the preview or regular version to our January 2009 FGA meeting.

V: **CSU Budget Quality Indicators (aka CSU Budget Dashboard: Nelson)**

- The Committee and guests held an extensive interchange of views and information on Senator Catherine Nelson's original concept for an FGA/ASCSU annual assessment report on key CSU statistical and budget indicators;
- Senator Nelson summarized the primary dashboard areas involving Faculty, Students, and Budget ... These include such categories as full-time vs. part-time faculty, Demographics by rank, SFR, FTES, FTES demographics, Marginal cost per FTES, and MPP comparative numbers and costs;
- B. Pasternack and D. Hood indicated that we could utilize the Senate's 21st-Century report as something of a foundation at least in a numerical sense and that many of that report's statistics, graphs, and charts could be incorporated or adapted. Hood suggested that we avoid one-year snapshots and continue our tradition of multi-year trend lines and longitudinal numbers.

- We would limit the categories and go with easily-accessible information as gathered by the Chancellor's Office or others. In this regard, we should remember that CPEC may not be reporting as much as in prior years/decades due to their own budgetary constraints;
- CSU Long Beach and the University of Delaware currently have institutional databases of possible systemwide application. *Access to Excellence* may also contain some key indicators we might wish to emulate or adopt.
- Nelson and Guerin will further investigate these sources for January and will attempt to blend together a dozen or so significant categories;
- Barrett will try to invite Mike McClean from the Chancellor's Office to our January meeting to give us some administrative background and advice re those CMS systemwide numbers that would prove pertinent;
- In answering a question about the prime purpose of this dashboard report, Senator Nelson and others commented that it could serve a similar role as ASCSU's 21st-Century paper in acting as a kind of performance report card from the Senate's perspective.

V. **FGA/Exec. Comm. Lobby Efforts**

- The Committee continued discussion from November concerning the strategy and logistics for our proposed April 2009 visit to Sacramento to legislative offices in the Capitol. One tentative date looks like Tuesday 7 April;
- Recognizing that mid-year 08-09 cuts might yet adversely affect our plans, we will move ahead for now as though we can still send 5 to 7 teams of 1, 2, or sometimes 3 senators. This would include any of our committee who could make the date plus 1 to 3 members of Exec. Comm.
- Members compared having each team arrange appointments versus having Chair Barrett and Vice Chair Krabacher and maybe one other person handle all the set-ups. We will finalize these types of tactics in January/February but agreed that careful planning with whatever method should allow us to arrange 25-35 visits as in past years. Regardless of legislative committee rosters, Barrett mentioned that he would ask FGA members to try and add one or two 1-person calls to Capitol offices for their own campus Assembly and Senate polls;
- FGA recommends to Exec. Comm. that we try and meet in person in Long Beach for the February Interim. At that time the April Sacramento trip will be fast approaching; and, as appeared from our teleconference experience this time, we have trouble with the quality and quantity of work we can accomplish over the phone;
- As previously discussed, we will probably use a substantial portion of our March 2009 gathering to hold interchange briefings with Robert Turnage, Karen Zamarripa, John Travis, and/or others in lieu of the same on the morning of the Capitol visit or the evening prior. This will assist us in identifying key talking points. The tradeoff here would be that we'd lose the last-minute update with more current information

and advice, but we may not be able to afford the extra costs of reaching Sacramento a night before.

VI. Senator Guerin will follow up with John Travis on possible overlap of CFA and ASCSU priorities and talking point

VII. **Other**

- FGA or a sub-group (BBB, TK, CN, and/or al.) might need to hold another brief teleconference prior to the 22 January confab in order to cover the Governor's January budget release;
- Several members requested that Barrett ask Exec. Comm. for 7 to 10 days of advance notice of any new January resolutions if at all possible. This results from people experiencing sometimes more than minor difficulties during the compressed November meetings, to the degree that we might believe some of our productivity and thoroughness suffered.

VIII. **Adjournment:** The Committee adjourned at approximately 11:25 a.m.