

UCPB met 10 times in the 2001-2002 session. The major activities of the committee and the issues it addressed during the year are noted herein.

Consultations with UCOP

UCPB was briefed on and responded to a range of issues that included:

- State budget negotiations and economic projections.
- Planning Issues -- enrollment projections; summer instruction; graduate student growth, graduate student support; building use standards
- Endowment Spending
- Multicampus Research Units (see below).
- The State Audit of the Partnership Agreement
- Unit 18 Lecturers Negotiations

Criteria for Budget Cuts

In response to the decline in the state economy and clear indications that the university would be facing budget cuts in the coming year, UCPB formed a subcommittee in December to put forward a set of criteria for making budgetary decisions. This project evolved into developing a set of recommended actions for achieving a long term budgetary strategy that maintains and improves the university's core instructional and research mission. In addition to calling for full and ongoing state support of the core budget, UCPB recommended enhancing revenue by, among other means, investing in increased development funding, increasing recovered indirect costs, and an orderly increase in student fees. A final version of these recommendations was submitted to the Academic Council in June, and an appended statement was submitted in July that puts UCPB on record as objecting in principle against across-the-board cuts as a means of addressing fiscal crises.

Multicampus Research Units

15-Year Review: A UCPB subcommittee studied the 15-year comparative review of White Mountain Research Station, UC Observatories/LICK, and INPAC, concurring with the Review Committee that all three MRUs fill an important mission in support of the University's commitment to education, research and service, and should continue. UCPB commented on the need for both more strategic planning in each case in order to utilize currently available funds in an optimal manner, and more development of extramural funding. For White Mountain and for UCO/LICK, UCPB supported funding for facilities maintenance, but did not unconditionally support increases in their permanent budgets. UCPB did, however, recommend significantly increased funding for INPAC's long-range conceptual studies.

Other MRU Issues: UCPB commented on the 2000-2001 MRU Financial Report, and on the proposed new category of Intercampus Research Programs. The committee also discussed the larger issues of MRU viability, the definition of an MRU, and the Senate's oversight role in regard to other research units (see CISI issue below).

California Space Institute

Twice in the year UCPB considered the issue of disestablishing the California Space Institute. In a discussion at its March meeting, the committee concurred with UCORP's call for the immediate disestablishment of CalSpace, expressed dissatisfaction with the administration's response to last year's Senate recommendation for disestablishment, and questioned the efficacy of the review process. At its May meeting UCPB discussed the question in more detail, and proposed a plan for the disestablishment of CalSpace that addresses organizational and budgetary particulars associated with the transition. UCPB recommended that the California Space Institute be disestablished, with the portion of its operating budget that is not supporting FTEs to be returned immediately to UCOP. As a transitional arrangement, the remaining budget should be retained for FTE salaries only until UC San Diego absorbs those positions as part of its normal FTE allocations. UCPB advised that the transfer of these positions to regular campus FTEs be given first priority from among San Diego's allocation of growth positions.

Academic Initiatives

Freshman Seminar Programs: While UCPB sees the benefits of Freshman Seminar Programs, it expressed concern about the proposed wording of the university-wide program announcement and the development procedure itself. UCPB felt that assuring freshmen access to the seminars could amount to an un-funded mandate and carry a budgetary impact at a time of serious budget constraints. UCPB urged the Academic Council to request that the Administration submit a detailed description of the proposal to the Senate for due review prior to making its formal public announcement.

5-Year Perspectives: As set out in the Compendium, UCPB receives a compilation of campus Five-year Perspectives each year from UCOP. Because the information on the lists is often neither current nor substantive enough for meaningful review, UCPB discussed the value of this process with the Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives. UCPB will continue to receive the lists of proposed campus programs and schools from the Vice Provost for Academic Initiatives, but primarily as an information item.

Indirect Cost Recovery

This issue has been reviewed in the past by UCORP and UCPB, but because of on-going concerns and questions about allocation and its process, the Academic Council charged UCPB in November of 2001 to initiate a new university-wide review, specifically looking at allocations at the campus level. A Joint UCPB-UCORP subcommittee was formed that oversaw an informal survey on the allocation of recovered overhead at the departmental and decanal levels. UCPB was also briefed on the breakdown of recovered funds at the systemwide level. An interim report was submitted to the Academic Council that outlined the subcommittee's progress and set forth as a guiding principle that the first priority for use of ICR funds is to provide research support services (as they are defined in OMB Circular A-21). The subcommittee will continue its work in the coming year.

“Accountability 1.5”

Another issue that was revisited by the committee this year was the 1999 UCPB report, “Accountability 1.5.” The report proposed measures of accountability of the university administration to the faculty and to the core academic enterprise, looking at faculty

productivity and support for that work. Since this report was not followed through on either by the committee or by the reviewing bodies, UCPB took up the task to review the report, decide what the measures should be, update them, and then assume responsibility for reviewing updates annually. The subcommittee reviewed the 1999 report and will, next year, work together with campus budget directors and with the Associate Vice President of Planning and Fiscal Analysis to establish whether and to what extent valid accountability measures can be generated, and what data is available for application.

Budgetary Model for Professional Schools

Since reviewing proposals in recent years for new professional schools, UCPB has been discussing how those proposals should be judged. This year a subcommittee was formed to draft guidelines and offer a budget template for such proposals. This model was submitted for Council approval, and UCPB hopes that it will be of value for future professional school proposals.

CISI Long-term Planning

In the second half of the year, UCPB addressed the question of long-term planning for the California Institutes for Science and Innovation. The committee articulated four areas of concern: the lack of permanent funding for CISI operating costs; the lack of Senate oversight of the CISI; the level of integration of the Institutes with their host campuses, and how intellectual property policy was being implemented or developed. UCPB first discussed these issues with the Associate Vice Provost for Research in June. At their July meeting, UCPB discussed these questions in person with the Directors of QB3, of CITRIS, and of CNSI. A written response was sent in from the Director of Cal (IT)2. A summary of that discussion reiterating UCPB's concerns was forwarded to the Vice Provost for Research. UCPB will continue its dialog with the Directors and with UCOP, and will work to establish clear policy for Senate oversight of the CISI.

Other Business

Academic Units:

- UCPB reviewed a revised proposal for the Reconstitution of the Davis Division of Education to the School of Education. The committee recommend: 1) slowing the proposed hiring rate down to two per year; 2) including clear evidence of sufficient student and market demand, and 3) indicating how the School will participate in undergraduate teaching and help address the University's growth needs.
- A preliminary proposal for a School of Management at UC Merced was reviewed, and although UCPB saw the eventual establishment of a school of management at UCM as reasonable, it considered this proposal premature and opined that it would not be appropriate until the basic academic structure and curriculum for UCM is consolidated.
- UCPB was kept apprised of the negotiations between UC and CSU that led to an agreement to establish the Joint Ed.D. Program.

UC Merced: The committee was regularly updated on planning developments for UCM from the committee liaison to the UCM Task Force.

Laboratory Professorship Program: Noting that a call for pre-proposals for the Lab Professorship program had already gone out before the proposed program had received full Senate review, UCPB requested that the current pre-proposal process be suspended pending Senate review. UCPB's recommended that a revised proposal address the disparities between the resources provided by the labs and the commitment expected from or benefit to the campuses.

State Negotiated Air Fares: In an effort to cut travel costs, UCPB looked into reasons why discounted state air fares (available to UC employees) were not more easily and more broadly used. According to the Vice President of Business and Finance, mechanisms will be set up on all campuses, through their respective Vice Chancellors for Administrative Affairs, allowing easy authorization for the negotiated state airfares. UCPB will monitor this process and hopes that easier access to these discounted fares will, however modestly, help ameliorate budget constraints.

UCPB Representation

The Chair, Vice Chair or a member represented UCPB on these committees: Academic Council, Academic Planning Council, Executive Budget Committee, Council on Research, UC Merced Task Force, Technology Transfer Advisory Committee, UCORP Subcommittee on Laboratory Management, SLASIAC.

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