

Oregon State University Student Budget Advisory Council

The Provost and the Vice President for Finance and Administration propose sponsoring a *Student Budget Advisory Council* to serve as a source of student advice and perspective.

Council Purpose:

The purpose of the Student Budget Advisory Council is to improve communication between students and the administration about issues regarding university finances and budgeting. The Council provides an opportunity for students to learn about the operations of the university and its finances; to provide ideas and perspectives; and to grow communication between various student communities and the university administration on matters relating to the university budget and financial planning.

The council will work to:

- Increase student engagement and input in key budget decisions such as the setting of tuition rates and policies.
- Increase student knowledge about how the university's finances work; where different kinds of revenues come from and how they are used; and what the short- term and long-term financial challenges for the university community are.
- Improve the communication network between various student communities and OSU leadership and the University Budget Committee so that a broader range of perspectives on issues are more widely shared and understood.

Council Activities and Role:

The Council will meet three times during fall and winter quarters, and twice in spring quarter. Meeting times will be set in consultation with membership to identify a time that allows the greatest participation. Topics for discussion will include:

- Overview of and reporting on the University budget, information on structure and functioning of the budget.
- Projections for the next fiscal year and principal contributors to cost changes and revenue changes.
- Tuition strategies, rates, and policies.
- Advisory Council recommendations to the University Budget Committee as part of the development of tuition and fee proposals.
- State funding levels and state funding requests; legislative updates.
- Financial aid amounts and components.
- Long-range budget and allocation planning, with particular reference to student concerns.
- Long-range capital planning and maintenance and improvement of facilities.
- Discussion of current university actions and students' ideas and suggestions to improve access, affordability, and success for students at the university.
- Ideas and suggestions to improve budget communications and knowledge among the

- overall study body.
- Other topics as identified by the Council.

Council Membership:

Council Chairs and Staff:

- Student representative selected by the membership (co-chair)
- Director of the Office of Budget and Fiscal Planning (co-chair)
- Staff member from the Office of Budget and Fiscal Planning (staff support)

Student Membership (25 including student co-chair) to be appointed for one-year terms with the possibility of renewal:

- Student representatives from each of the 11 Academic Colleges (11)
- ASOSU University Budget Committee representatives (2)
- Graduate student UBC representative (1)
- Student representative from the International Students of Oregon State University (1)
- Student representatives from each of the Cultural Resource Centers (7)
- At-large student representatives invited by the Provost to foster further diversity of student perspectives (3)

The meetings will be open to the public.

Preliminary Council Schedule:

This list of topics is intended to illustrate the types of discussions the Advisory Council might have, but will be modified when the group convenes. The schedule in future years may change to allow the Council to engage in discussions earlier in planning for future year's budgets and tuition rates. The schedule will also be adjusted to provide the best opportunity to engage with the Board of Trustees' discussions on tuition and fee rates.

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| First week of October: | Overview of OSU's budget |
| First week of November: | Projections for FY18, state funding, and tuition |
| First week of December: | Tuition strategies |
| Second week of January: | Tuition continued, comments for the UBC |
| Second week of February: | Financial aid, information sharing with student body, student engagement in tuition? |
| Second week of March: | Comments for Board of Trustees, Legislative update |
| Last week of April: | FY18 budget projections, issues and discussion |
| Third week of May: | Debriefing, issues for the next year, summer work? |

A summary of each meeting and associated recommendations or questions will be provided to the University Budget Committee. Materials and summaries from each meeting will be posted on the Budget and Fiscal Planning web site.