

### **Student Budget Advisory Council Outcomes, 2016-17 and 2017-18**

The Student Budget Advisory Council was constituted in 2016-17 and is finishing its second year. The group formed to try to broaden student participation in the tuition and fee setting process and to gain students perspectives on other budget and financial planning issues. The Council started quite large, populated by nomination and invitation from a variety of campus colleges and organizations, and has evolved to a largely voluntary participation, though still representative of several different groups.

From my perspective in the Budget Office, the Council has contributed to a number of significant changes or outcomes over the last two years. Some changes have resulted from direct recommendation, some by raising questions or asking for more information, some by coordination with the UBC or ASOSU, and some by providing comment on issues brought to meetings for discussion. Some of those outcomes that come to mind include:

- FY2018 tuition increase under 5%, lowest for the major public universities in Oregon
  - One percentage point of the increase dedicated to additional need-based financial aid
- Pilot project for non-credit PAC classes
- Added student participation to the University Budget Committee through the participation of the SBAC chairs
- Scenario approach for undergraduate tuition discussion for the Board of Trustees (now looks like it's going to be the standard practice)
- Quantitative assessment of enrollment sensitivity to tuition increases
- FY2019 tuition increases under 4%, board discussions on financial aid strategy and long-term tuition strategy
  - Board consideration of long-term tuition strategy and expected upper- and lower-limits (under consideration at the May-June 2018 meeting)
- Suggestions for student club, employee, and organization meetings as a way of getting comment and questions on the annual tuition proposals
- Budget Office work on salary assessment across ranks, units and levels to understand the distributions clearly, including benchmarking administrative salaries to national averages for similar jobs
- Beginning conversations (ditto for the University Budget Committee) on standardizing definitions of administrative and non-administrative costs as a start to a standardized administrative overhead cost assessment
- Discussions that helped inform ASOSU's and OSU's responses to HB 4141 (bill did pass but was significantly modified, including some changes to next year's tuition process)
- Flagged questions about the first-year live-on campus requirement
- Provided perspective on university's discussions about investments in student success
- Helped inform transition of health fees to tuition side of the process
- Provided advice and ideas on how to institutionalize the Council