

Draft



SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

Senate Chambers, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Michael Beebe (Co-Chair).

Members present: Michael Beebe, Kerry Campbell-Price, Barbara Croteau, Ted Crowell, Ken Fiori, Micca Gray, Doug Kuula, Michael Ludder, Maryanne Michaels, Ron Myers, Stephanie Thompson

Also present: Linda Close, Susan St. Clair

1. Approval of Minutes

The committee approved the October 24, 2006 and November 28, 2006 meeting minutes as submitted.

2. Review of Governor's Budget for 2007-08

Michael Beebe distributed correspondence from the Chancellor's office that summarized the Governor's proposed 2007-08 budget. Michael reviewed the highlights indicating that fees for credit courses will remain at \$20 per unit; a COLA of 4.04% is proposed in addition to 2% for growth; \$33.1 million of surplus basic skills incentive funding will be redirected to support additional matriculation and support services for students; \$9 million in one-time funds and \$9 million in on-going funds will go to support additional nursing program investments; \$33.2 million will offset remaining fee revenue reduction incurred due to the reduction in student fees from \$26 to \$20 per unit in Spring 2007; and a \$197.2 million reduction to apportionments to reflect estimated growth in local property taxes. Michael noted that there is no new money proposed for enhanced non-credit.

During a discussion about the Governor's proposed budget, Micca Gray requested a comparison of next year's proposed budget and the current year's budget. She also asked to see what specific effects the proposed budget will have on SRJC's budget and funding.

3. Update on Enhanced Non-credit Funding

Michael Beebe said the decision reached regarding criteria was late breaking and needs refinement, so the Governor did not include this in the budget.

Kerry Campbell-Price added that according to the Chancellor's Office, the language has not yet been finalized; however, the application will be available soon. It was indicated that the non-credit ESL sequence will qualify, but the basic skills classes may not qualify because they are not in course sequence. SRJC is reviewing curriculum development to see what could be implemented in time to benefit from the enhanced funding.

When Maryanne Michaels asked about non-credit labs that are associated with sequential credit classes, Kerry Campbell-Price replied that 770 labs are not eligible since students need to be in a credit course to participate in the lab.

4. Discussion Regarding Enrollment Issue

Michael Beebe reviewed the enrollment figure situation stating that the district's annual audit revealed a discrepancy with the enrollment figures reported to the Chancellor's Office for 2005-06. SRJC's Admissions and Records Office performed an internal audit of last year's records and determined that 414.19 FTES were actually overstated. In 2005-06, SRJC reported an enrollment of 20,262.60 FTES, a figure that was overstated by 414.19 FTES. Therefore, the actual enrollment for last year is 19,848.41 FTES.

Because the budget this year was built on 20,262 FTES, it is crucial that SRJC achieve at least this enrollment level. Michael continued by saying that based on validated class rosters for Fall 2006, growth of .5% was attained above the reported enrollment figure for Fall 2005.

At the time of the BAC meeting, according to the "Collis Report," credit enrollment increased by 2.9%. Michael Beebe said that, even with the 2% overstatement, SRJC may be able to achieve modest growth for Spring 2007, but that cannot be determined until all of the census rosters are submitted and tallied by Admissions and Records.

Ken Fiori reminded the committee that the "Collis Report" is a predictor and an estimate.

During a discussion about enrollment retention strategies, Barbara Croteau stated that SRJC needs to refine how the classes are scheduled. For instance, there are economics or accounting students each semester who realize they will not be successful in the class, so they drop the class and then scramble to obtain needed units for that semester. She suggested formatting some class sections to be held as late-start classes, or short courses. It was pointed out that if a section is scheduled for less than 12 weeks, the pay structure changes and the instructor gets paid less. The committee agreed that SRJC needs to examine how these sections are loaded, otherwise less pay is certainly a disincentive to teaching a short course. Ken Fiori said that the State does not compensate the district the same amount for two eight-week courses as it would for one full-semester course because of a difference in contact hours.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 9, at 10:00 a.m., in the Senate Chambers.