

Executive Council Minutes
Meeting with Deans/Budget Leaders
October 22, 2018

Present: Karla Hughes, Alex Becker, Peggy Doss, Moses Goldmon, Linda Rushing, Bob Ware, Jeff Weaver, Christy Pace, John Davis, Dan Boice, Morris Bramlett, Marsha Clayton, Rick Clubb, Brian Hairston, Brandy Haley, Kim Level, Crystal Halley, Mark Spencer, Phil Tappe, Rita Hyatt, Tawana Greene, Renea McClendon

1. Opening Remarks – Dr. Hughes

The discussion on budget has already started in Executive Council meetings. It was intentional to focus on the positive during professional development meetings and not dwell on the negative. The productivity watchdog team has been working hard and a faculty group has also been added. The budget process is now more inclusive and transparent. We will be reviewing priorities and will have to balance them.

2. Background – Mr. Becker

About five years ago, the format was changed for the budget that had to be presented to the Board of Trustees. It went to an income statement approach and a loss was shown due to depreciation. However, beginning this year, the budget had to be balanced. Other concerns include not receiving new money, losing money due to productivity funding and having a reduction in enrollment. The process of finding savings has begun and a conservative approach on enrollment has always been taken when preparing the budget.

3. Going Forward – Dr. Hughes

The university as a whole needs to weigh everything we are spending. It is not just about academics, all areas are looking at their respective units. We have to move the institution forward but also look at reality.

4. Comments from Budget Leaders

- It's important for each unit to give input on their priorities.
- Each unit's budget needs to align with their own strategic plan.
- The dean's council liked hearing priorities from other deans.
- Decisions that are made regarding salaries and increases must be sustainable.
- With the productivity funding, we cannot just wait and see, which is why the watchdog team was established, and we have been moving in the right direction.
- Both recruitment and retention must be the focus, not just one or the other.
- There are many positive aspects to the degree pathways program, including a better chance for success, allowing for a starting point, benefitting the productivity formula, allowing savings in some units due to workload.

- As implementation takes place with the productivity funding, it will show how the faculty's role will be positively impacted.
- ADHE has control of the formula and there is no talk about changes from the legislation.