BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE
March 1, 2007
Summary of Meeting

Members present:

Jeffrey Berghoff    Mark Kretovics    Charlene Reed
Cheryl Casper       Larry Marks       Richard Rubin
Timothy Chandler    Timothy Martin    Wayne Schneider
David Creamer       Austin Melton     Richard Serpe
Laura Davis         Jeff Milam        Mary Stansbury
Bruce Gunning       Nancy Mitchell    Denise Zelko
Sally Kandel

Austin Melton was welcomed as a new member to the committee.

Review of Consultation Process and Meeting Summaries

Summaries of the feedback from the RCM consultations conducted in February were distributed. Attendees at the various consultations should provide suggestions or changes for improving the summaries. The summaries will be added to the website.

It was noted that there have been certain recurring themes during the consultations. A new FAQ is to be prepared for the faculty senate meeting and added to the website.

Faculty Senate Discussion

At the March 12 Faculty Senate meeting, the standard presentation will not be made as most of the senators will have already seen it. Instead, the new FAQ material will be distributed as well as the comparison table from the White Paper. There will be 35-40 minutes for discussion and it is anticipated that a resolution supporting further consideration of the responsibility center management concept will be introduced at the meeting.

Upcoming Meeting with Ohio State University

Materials were distributed at the February 15 meeting from Ohio State University’s website about the process they used to implement the RCM model. Dr. Creamer suggested that committee members visit the website http://www.rpia.ohio-state.edu/Budget_planning/Budget_restruct.htm to become familiar with the process OSU used especially two documents (Budget Restructuring Basics, and Budget Restructuring: “Going Forward” Rules). It would be beneficial if this could occur prior to the April 5 teleconference.

An academic plan was an important element in OSU’s planning and decision-making about RCM. Having agreed upon academic priorities is important to a successful implementation. There also was discussion about what an academic plan should look like and if this should be a component of the committee’s recommendation to President Lefton.
There was also agreement that the process for developing an academic plan will need to involve the new provost. The provost should lead the academic planning process which by necessity will parallel the new budget model.

The committee also discussed the need for improved data and information. RPIE needs to be in a position to support the institution regarding these needs. Deans, chairs and directors will also need to be more skilled in using data to make decisions. One suggestion was to hold focus groups to help understand some of the current needs. We also should look at what OSU and other universities provide so the deans better understand what is possible.

Committee Recommendation to President Lefton

One committee member stressed that the recommendation to the president should also include an extensive education and training expectation. Problems have occurred in the past when chairs and directors were inadequately prepared for a change. Understanding what is expected in an RCM environment is very important and will be a critical element in the success or failure of the shift to a new budgeting process.

Planning for Implementation

Dr. Creamer discussed the “Implementation Plan” draft outline. It is anticipated that an implementation plan needs to be ready for distribution by the end of spring semester.

Dr. Creamer talked about the budget transition to RCM. We will use FY 2006 as the basis for modeling the budgeting impact of the RCM choices. It is anticipated that by the April 19 meeting, he will have the first draft model to discuss with the committee.

Next Meeting

The March 15 meeting has been changed to March 22, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the KSC, 3rd floor conference suite.