

YSU Budget Advisory Council
Meeting minutes for January 30, 2017
10:00 a.m. – Kilcawley Center, Hynes Room

Members in attendance: Carole Weimer, Len Schiavone (by phone), Gabriella Gessler, Ken Learman, , Martin Abraham, Charles Howell, Amy Gordon, Carly Devenburgh, Lisa Mudryk, Jacob Schriener-Briggs, Jeffrey Coldren, Eddie Howard, Thomas Wakefield, Neal McNally.

Members absent: Connie Augustine-Thompson, Jeff Tyus, Elaine Jacobs.

1. The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. The minutes from the 1/13/17 meeting, which had been distributed prior to today's meeting, were accepted as final without changes.

2. As discussed at the previous meeting, the YSU website has been updated to include a page for the Budget Advisory Council (BAC), where meeting documents will be posted, including membership roster, agendas, minutes and presentation materials. This will help enhance the visibility and awareness of the issues under review and discussion at BAC meetings. Pres. Tressel had recommended that a photograph of each BAC member be added to the membership roster on the website. Existing photos will be used for members who already have one on file with YSU's Office of Marketing & Communications. For anyone who does not have a photo on file, YSU photographer Joel Lewis will be in contact to arrange for a photo to be taken.

3. Neal McNally told the group that the YSU Budget Office would soon be e-mailing financial managers across campus to alert them to the opportunity to make adjustments and reallocations within their operating budget(s) for next fiscal year, FY 2018. This is a routine planning exercise that is intended to align spending budgets to where actual expenses are expected to occur. Having budgets more closely aligned with actual expenses allows for a more accurate and useful budget planning document.

4. YSU's interim chief information officer, Jim Yukech, made a PowerPoint presentation on one of the budget priorities that had been identified by President Tressel: the need to invest in the university's IT infrastructure. This presentation will be posted to the BAC page on the YSU website. Mr. Yukech's presentation noted the following:
 - a. YSU's information technology infrastructure is between 5-10 years behind industry best practices in terms of being upgraded or "refreshed." Consequently, YSU is on "borrowed time." The university's IT leadership team has developed a 6-year plan to address this problem, at an estimated cost of \$1 million per year for six years. While

this is a six year plan, the group discussed the need for IT maintenance and upgrades to be an ongoing activity.

- b. An analysis of the university's IT spend shows that we have underspent on infrastructure but have overspent on applications. The use of an IT governance committee structure will help begin to address this imbalance.
 - c. YSU is also evaluating options to improve locations for our data center and disaster recovery site, including moving to the State of Ohio Computer Center (SOCC) in Columbus, as recommended last year by Governor Kasich's Task Force on Higher Education Affordability & Efficiency. While the SOCC provides for enhanced backup and recovery time, the upfront investment cost of \$792,000 presents a challenge for YSU.
5. The BAC will meet twice in February; a Doodle poll will be sent to all members to determine the optimal time/dates, with the goal of maximizing attendance. Discussion topics at upcoming meetings will include a review of departmental costs as benchmarked in the Delaware Study, and a presentation on YSU's enrollment outlook from Gary Swegan.
6. The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:05 a.m.