



CAL STATE LA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

FISCAL POLICY COMMITTEE

FiPC 18-05

MINUTES OF THE MEETING: November 8, 2018

PRESENT: L. Asgari, K. Hackel, A. Harrison, J. Li, A. Marmolejo, J. Momand, A. Pacheco-Vega, H. Paul, G. Simon-Cereijido, S. Xing, Y. Song
Excused Absence: E. Acevedo, M. Wallace
ABSENCE: D. Abou Salem, S. Meyer

Vice Chair J. Momand convened the meeting at 9:26 a.m. in ADM. 313.

1. Announcements: Chair Acevedo is ill and we wish her a speedy recovery. An announcement was made to inform the committee that the purpose of time certain is to gather information to make recommendations at the RAAC meeting in Spring 2019. Today, ASI Senators are holding a meeting from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm at Library A-119 Innovation Hub titled Student Advocacy 101.
2. Intent to Raise Questions: None.
3. Time Certain- J. Underwood 9:25am- 9:55am- J. Underwood, AVP for Office of Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities (RSCA):
 - 3.1 J. Underwood said his priorities were for growth in the footprint on campus and find ways to incentivize faculty to apply for grants and scholarships.
 - 3.2 A handout was given showing that the Chancellor's office funded CSULA RSCA with \$151K. FY2017-18 expenditures was \$24,496,330 and FY2016-17 expenditures was \$22,367,754. The number of proposals this year was 178 compared to 170 the previous year. The number of research awards this year was 117 compared to 126 the previous year. The awarded amount this year was \$36.7 million compared to \$42.7 million the previous year. Four of six colleges were awarded >\$1.0M compared to only three colleges the previous year.
 - 3.3 This year there were 26 reassigned time grants awarded compared to 13 reassigned time grants the previous year. This increase is due to the removal of the "semester release" program, a program that was found to be in violation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The funds in the semester release program were reallocated to regular reassigned time grants.
 - 3.4 AVP Underwood worked with Provost Mahoney and CFO Chavez to hire a Director of Sponsored Programs. J. Underwood is chairing this search. The Director of Sponsor Program will report to CFO Chavez for salary and promotion and will report activities to Dr. Underwood. J. Underwood is making changes to ORSCA staff: increasing customer service, organization, improved technology, accounting, procurement, and HR.
 - 3.5 A major reason for changes in ORSCA staff was based on an external review by CSUSJ AVP. Based on the findings of being understaffed and lack of new technology there was a risk of being audited.
 - 3.6 Regarding increasing the indirect rate for education grants, it is difficult to get external agencies to change indirect cost rate. Currently, CSULA average indirect cost rate is only 9%. Underwood's inquiries with colleagues suggest that the political climate is not optimal for asking for rate change.
4. Time Certain- L. Chavez 10:00am- 10:30am: L. Chavez, VP and CFO of Administration and Finance:
 - 4.1 It currently takes approximately 4 days after receipt of requisition by purchasing agent for the purchase order to be issued. The item is then shipped to campus to be delivered to faculty. L. Chavez is working to eliminate the paper process to shorten the length of time between PO submission and receipt of an item. L. Chavez just hired a new Senior Director of Financial Project, Elaine Kist, to eliminate the paper process and shorten the purchasing timeline.
 - 4.2 A new AVP for Administration and Finance started Monday, Joyce Williams. We also recently hired the new Director of UAS, Tariq Marji, who will start in January 2019.
 - 4.3 There is a difficulty retaining Analysts in UAS. These are technical professionals and UAS cannot compete with salaries that USC, Cal Tech and Children's Hospital pay.
 - 4.4 Cal State LA has the ability to issue a wire transfer for international individuals on UAS grants to be paid.

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- 4.5 An accounting of the indirect costs distribution for 2017-2018 fiscal year will be made available to Chair of FiPC by end of November 2018.
- 4.6 The difficulty with consolidating the UAS grants and contracts under the AVP for Research is that it would significantly increase costs to the state due to the increased costs of providing benefits.
- 4.7 L. Chavez reports that 8 years ago, UAS had a \$10.5M deficit. As of this year, that deficit has been eliminated.
- 5. Chair's Report: Nothing to report
- 6. Liaison's Report: J. Li reported that A. Acevedo will serve as College RAAC Representative for NSS this semester due to J. Li's schedule conflict. A. Pacheco also reported that he will attend the College RAAC meeting for ECST.
- 7. Approval of the Minutes (FiPC 18 04): M/s/p (H. Paul) -1 abstention.
- 8. Approval of the Agenda (FiPC 18 05): M/s/p (K. Hackel)
- 9. Adjournment: M/s/p (K. Hackel) adjourned at 10:40 a.m.