2019-20 URPC:

Meeting Minutes:

- Co-Chairs Opening Comments
  - Inside Higher Education publication titled "Squeezed From All Sides: Opportunities and Challenges for Regional Public Universities" was shared with the committee this week.
  - URPC’s duties as detailed in the Senate Bylaws were a discussion topic at Senate’s 9/17 meeting: First bullet in bylaws: The Committee shall make recommendations to the Senate and, within the policy guidelines established by the Senate, advise the President and appropriate administrative officers concerning the allocation of university resources and general budget policy.
    - Committee discussion of the importance of shared governance, consultation, and collaboration while maintaining forward momentum toward completing the committee’s 2019-20 academic year charge to recommend a three-year budget plan to the President for consideration by December 2019.
- Action Items:
  - Co-Chairs will request clarification from Senate on their intended action related to the review of committee bylaws.
  - Co-Chairs will provide verbal reports of URPC’s work at Senate meetings going forward.
- Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - Tabled to next meeting
- Continue Forward Progress on URPC Action Plan for Three-Year Balanced Budget
  - Establish Guiding Principles
    - Link to Draft Guiding Principles
    - Common themes were apparent in the draft document that would be used to shape the committee’s approach.
Action Item:
- Jim and Anthony will synthesize the information and develop a cohesive draft.
- URPC previously developed Strategic Budgeting Principles

Develop Approach (stakeholder meetings, survey, data requests, etc.)
- Handout provided to committee outlining 5 potential approaches for calculating and distributing reductions:
  1. Marginal Cost Distribution by Division – Reduction targets distributed by division and each division would develop reduction plans with their respective areas. URPC could develop templates, questions, etc. to guide this work.
  2. Across the Board 3%/5%/7% Reduction Scenarios requested from each division – Reductions distributed by division and each division would develop reduction plans with their respective areas. URPC could develop templates, questions, etc. to guide this work.
  3. Target FIRMS Code Percentages distributed by division – Reductions distributed by division and each division would develop reduction plans with their respective areas. URPC could develop templates, questions, etc. to guide this work.
  4. Campus call for ideas, URPC works more as a task force and actively vets suggestions and makes recommendations – In this approach, URPC is much more hands on in gathering reduction ideas and making recommendations. Would need to work through how this would be vetted with respective areas.
  5. Develop a scalable budget model – Focus on developing a new scalable budget model that allocated budget based on available resources, rather than the current approach that deals with historical budget allocations and then “cuts” spending to balance – would require extensive legwork to develop and vet such a model.

Discussion on approaches used in previous reductions, concerns related to lack of flexibility due to staffing commitments, student and job market needs, and the potential of incorporating aspects of Option 4 into Option 5 for the committee’s approach.

Committee voted, majority supported Option 5 - Develop a scalable budget model

Action Items:
- Jim will collect examples of different budget models.
- Anthony will share the web form he created to solicit ideas/information from the campus community.
- Develop Narrative and “Rationale” for dissemination (not discussed directly due to time constraints)

Review 2018-19 Roll Forward Report
- Topic was skipped to allow time for continued discussion on Continue Forward Progress agenda item.

Next Steps – Set Agenda for 9/27 Meeting