

**DRAFT**

University Planning and Budget Committee  
minutes, meeting of **September 18, 2014**, 2 PM, Copernicus 204

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{note: UPBC membership changed prior to this meeting. The corrected roll is copied here.}

UPBC Membership as of 9/17/14

**ELECTED AAUP FACULTY:**

- ✓ Alicia Bray (Biology)
- ✓ Patrick Foster (Technology & Engin. Ed.)
- ✓ Julia Kara-Soteriou (Reading and L.A.)
- ✓ Rae Schipke (English)
- ✓ Kathy Martin-Troy (Biomolecular Sciences)

**ELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE FACULTY:**

- ✓ Laura Marchese (Institutional Advancement)
- Chad Valk (Media Center)
- ✓ Kevin Oliva (Acad. Ctr for Student Athletes)

**APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT**

- ✓ Matthew Bielawa (Registrar)
- ✓ Carlos Liard-Muriente (Economics)

**EX OFFICIO:**

- ✓ Faris Malhas: Dean
- ✓ Carl Lovitt: VP Academic Affairs
- ✓ Laura Tordenti: VP Student Affairs
- Chris Galligan: VP Inst'l Advancement
- ✓ Charlene Casamento: CFO
- ✓ Yvonne Kirby: Dir, Inst'l Resch & Assessm.

*{there are also four vacancies: 3 students, 1 part-time faculty}*

**members present:** see list above. **guests present:** none

**1. Announcements:**

Martin-Troy (chair):

- Due to term limits, Thom Delventhal was replaced by Julia Kara-Soteriou prior to this meeting.
  - Welcome to Dr. Kara-Soteriou.
- As Delventhal had been this committee's secretary, a replacement is needed.
  - Martin-Troy nominates Foster. Unanimous approval.
- Next meeting will be 2 PM, October 2, in the Student Center Philbrick Room.
  - President Miller to attend. He has requested a discussion, not a lecture.
  - Martin-Troy: we need to decide what to do at this meeting.
  - Oliva (vice chair): perhaps we should also eventually meet with all division heads

**2. Reports:**

Kirby, Bielawa: 270 undergrads and 35 grads removed from the full-time rolls this week.

- Casamento: do we reach out to find out why they're no longer full-time?
- Bielawa: yes, and the reasons are consistent
- Casamento, Kirby: these numbers also affect funding.
- Lovitt: these numbers are good.
- Bielawa: they're better than average.

**Lovitt:** No genuinely new items.

- Still working on making CCSU a five-day campus
  - This term 17% of SEST classes meet on Friday; next term, 13% will do so in SEPS.
  - {further discussion re: why students don't return after first year}
  - There are 763 courses meeting on Friday of about 6600 total.
- Metamajors concept being worked on as well. This is an alternative, for students without majors, to assigning them to "undecided (school)."
- {responding to question} Liberal Studies major "still on the table." ECSU now has one.
- Liard-Muriente: will administration green-light low-enrolled Friday classes?
  - Lovitt: the answer is to remove the option students have to not attend Friday classes.
  - Liard-Muriente: how do metamajors fit within the new general education framework?
  - Lovitt: Although that's not 100% clear at present, we should nonetheless proceed.
- {Bray initiates discussion of revised foreign-language requirement }

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- Lovitt: administration has been consistent that it will not support a revised general education plan which isn't cost-neutral, and the budgetary impact of this requirement hasn't been sufficiently investigated. Perhaps UPBC should weigh in on this issue.
- Martin-Troy: this committee could make a (budgetary, not curricular) recommendation.
- {Casamento explains how changes in SAT expectations have affected the budget}
- Casamento: compared to other institutions we are doing well in this regard.
- Martin-Troy → Lovitt: FYE is a graduation requirement but is not being enforced as such. Word on the street is that the administration doesn't support FYE.
  - Lovitt: retention dropped after we implemented FYE.
  - {further discussion.FYE, CACE, and block-scheduling were all rolled out in the same time period; What percentage of students take FYE?}

**Casamento:**

- Regarding Friday courses in upcoming terms:
  - New residence hall adds 400 beds to campus (although other dormitories will be successively taken off-line at first)
  - Three- or 4-day schedule makes it easier for students not to stay over the weekends
  - Money generated by students staying on the weekends is used across campus
- New food contract is coming up, as is new dining facility—and associated costs.
  - There is a mid-October deadline for bids for the food contract. We are currently working with bidders, answering their questions.
- One of the most important reasons for Friday classes is financial.
  - We need 300 – 400 additional residents.
  - {discussion: scholarships and scheduling could be adjusted to encourage this.}
  - State money to keep tuition increases to 2% may or may not happen again next year.
- Overall we seem to be in good shape this year—we budgeted for zero growth—we'll have more solid numbers at some point, but we expect a surplus.
  - Thus there may be money for one-time expenditures.
  - We will probably be asked again for a 10% contingency (reduction) plan.
  - Additional information will be available next meeting.
- Marchese: the cost of living on campus is between \$10,000 and \$12,000
  - Some colleges give larger merit awards to on-campus students.
  - We are still the least expensive of the CSUs.
- All-access food plan: Otis Mamed says that this plan is still cost-effective. People are pretty happy with it, and the new contract still calls for this plan. Maybe in 3-5 years we will revisit this, but doing so now doesn't make sense.
- Liard-Muriente: the real issue is not that we are the least expensive (housing) CSU but once students decide to join us, the issue becomes on campus vs. off campus; off campus seems less expensive as students don't account for food which is part of the on campus bill.

**Tordenti:**

- Residence halls are at 100% capacity.
  - {discussion of wet vs. dry campus}
- Factors that enhance student engagement and satisfaction include students feeling a personal connection—examples include participation in the car club, international study, and more.
- We're the only CSU at full capacity.
- {responding to question} Yes, there has been talk of a pub or restaurant on campus—possibly downstairs in Memorial Hall.
- {additional discussion on this topic; specifically, how it relates to the food service contract, whether such a restaurant would be part of a national chain, etc.}

**3. Closure:**

Martin-Troy: contact me if you have specific issues to raise with the president at our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.