# **Integrated Planning Council**

# **March 21, 2022**

# **Meeting Notes**

**Present:** L. Bucher, S. Cintorino, G. Claffey, C. Robinson, N. Elsinger, A. Bray, L. Frank, S. Hazan, Y. Kirby, F. Latour, Z. Toro, J. Tully, E. Moore, K. Kostelis

## **FY22 & FY23 Budget Update**

The following summary was provided:

* We are projecting a balanced budget for FY22
* Since our last meeting we received approximately $2.4 million in infrastructure funding
* The union contract agreements and salary increases will be retroactively effective July 1, 2021
* The decline in enrollment and additional expenses will result in an approximate deficit of $15 million for this year and next year
* There are 92 retirements as of this week, 51 of which will occur from April 1 – July 1
* The FY23 tuition fee package was submitted last week with a 5% tuition and fees increase, a 2% housing increase, and a 3% food increase; these increases are lower than our sister institutions

**Update on Review of Academic Program Approval Process**

K. Kostelis stated that she has been working with F. Latour, E. Moore and Sheldon Watson to review the approval cycles and processes at the System level and the University level. In order to continue the review of this process, it was suggested a small group be formed. This small group will include K. Kostelis, F. Latour, E. Moore, B. Merenstein and S. Watson, who will meet as soon as possible to continue the review of this process.

**Challenges and Opportunities for CCSU Post-Pandemic**

The Council engaged in discussion regarding the challenges and opportunities that have resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic. Below is a summary of the comments and feedback from the group.

**CHALLENGES**

* Retirements may result in a lot of new faculty, staff and administrators that need a lot of onboarding and training
* It will be challenging to establish new expectations, considering the pandemic has forever changed the landscape of education
* There may be new safety issues we need to think about (i.e.: with bringing outside groups to campus)
* We need to rethink how we encourage attendance of in-person events; we need to work to show the community we are a vibrant and active campus
* It will be challenging to serve all of the needs and expectations of the students; many want flexibility, but we also need to accommodate students who want a traditional college experience
* We cannot do everything – we need to decide what kind of institution we are and how we will serve our students
* The issue of flexibility has come up a lot among deans and faculty; we cannot overpromise and underdeliver
* Students expect convenience – they want virtual advising, online courses, and flexible options; this is not going to change
* Parents want a “360 degree” experience for their children, including support systems, mental health, clubs and activities, as well as academics
* Students are not prepared for the rigor of college; we need to ensure support for writing, reading, math, etc.
* The DFW rate in Math must be addressed
* We need to connect what students are doing in the classroom with their future careers; we need more experiential learning opportunities for students in their fields
* There is an expectation that we will help students transition from school to career

**OPPORTUNITIES**

* New employees provide us an opportunity to develop and improve our culture; we should consider what kinds of changes we would like to make to start these employees on a good path
* Students who haven’t had the traditional college experience can now engage in campus activities like never before; this is an opportunity to improve our offerings and increase participation in clubs and events
* This is the perfect opportunity to rebrand and determine how we will serve online, commuter, traditional, residential, and other types of students
* There will be opportunities for on campus events, external events, and catering, which will increase revenue (high school graduation, college fairs, etc.)
* We are looking into food trucks as an alternate food option
* The bachelor’s in general studies will offer flexibility for students
* This is a great time to consider how we will allocate our resources