

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
**Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee**  
Faculty Center  
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**Minutes**

Wednesday, October 4, 2017  
8:15-9:50 a.m. Old Main Boardroom

- Present: R. Richardson (Co-Chair), A. Vaillancourt (Co-Chair), M.L. Brown, M. Burke, A. Comrie, V. Del Casino, P. Dourlein, J. Duran, J. Florian, T. Gibson, S. Helm, M. Lubisich, S. Keim, M. Marzinsky, A. Miller, M. Miller, L. Nadel, S. Panferov, C. Rocha, L. Rulney, M. Tatum, M. Taylor, J. Treviño, K. Washington White, X. Zeng
- Absent: J. Baxter, B. Carter, B. Conway, K. Espy, J. Fares, G. Goldman, K. Whisman
- Guests: President Robbins, Javier Escobar, Simran Nirh, Melissa Vito, Bill Walker

**Call to Order**

Co-Chair A. Vaillancourt called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

**Approval of the Minutes of September 6, 2017**

The minutes of September 20, 2017 were approved.

**Updates**

Provost Comrie provided the Committee on several updates:

- ABOR met at NAU in Flagstaff from September 27 – 29, 2017.
- Honors College – The Honors College project has been approved by the JCCR.
- Building 90 – The Arizona Governor is visiting the UA campus today for a tour of Building 90.
- Athletics – ABOR has approved four athletic facility projects. The Hillenbrand Softball Stadium, Hillenbrand Aquatic Center, and Arizona Stadium will be the three facilities for improvement. The fourth project will be a construction of an Indoor Sports Center. The facility projects will be funded by various private donations and the new student fee.
- Dean search – Committee has interviewed several candidates for the College of Education Dean.

Members asked about the funding for the new Department of Moral Sciences. The Provost responded funding would come primarily from the state budget and donors' support.

President Robbins updated the Committee on several items including:

- Honors College – The approval by JCCR, the Honors College project will continue the next steps for building the new complex. President Robbins attended a Flinn Scholars reception on October 3, 2017. He met with thirty six Flinn Fellows who have received funding for undergraduate study at an Arizona public university.
- Building 90 – On September 19, 2017, JCCR approved the renovation of Building 90. Governor Ducey will be visiting the UA to take a tour of Building 90. Both the President and the Governor would take part in a ceremonial sledgehammer, which would begin the renovation process. This will be the first bond funding that will be used for infrastructure.
- UA Men’s Basketball – President Robbins released a statement on October 3, 2017 regarding the basketball investigations. There are three ongoing investigations. President Robbins communicated with the NCAA and Pac-12 Conference. The UA has hired an attorney who was a former U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona to initiate the review of the allegations against one of the men’s basketball coaching staff. The UA has also hired a team of counsel to represent the UA in the matter with the NCAA and the Department of Justice.

Members addressed the question of what account is used for the UA to cover attorney fees. There are various sources of funding that is used to cover attorney fees.

**Discussion: Our UA Rankings Strategy – What Metrics Matter?**

Vincent J. Del Casino,, SPBAC member and Vice President for Academic Initiatives and Student Success; Senior Vice President Melissa Vito, and Simran Nirh and Javier Escobar from the University Analytics & Institutional Research led a conversation about the national and international rankings and the two major surveys from the US News & World Report and Times Higher Education. Rankings are an important factor when it comes to students determining what college to attend and the impact on national and international enrollments. A lot of families are starting to look at what schools provide the best academic value for their money, so they look at rankings, especially initially as they identify possible schools. There are three staff working on analyzing UA’s ranking data from various data collections such as the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and Common Data Set (CDS). Rankings measure the retention and graduation; program reputation and faculty citation; faculty terminal degree and expertise; and peer assessments of the Institution and its programs. The Times Higher Education World University Rankings ranked the UA at 179 and the Wall Street Journal ranked the UA at 161 for 2017.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

**Future Meetings**

October 18, 2017	8:15 am – 9:50 am	Old Main Boardroom
November 1, 2017	8:15 am – 9:50 am	Old Main Boardroom
November 15, 2017	8:15 am – 9:50 am	Old Main Boardroom

December 6, 2017  
December 20, 2017

8:15 am – 9:50 am  
8:15 am – 9:50 am

Old Main Boardroom  
Old Main Boardroom