

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee

Faculty Center
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Minutes

Wednesday, October 18, 2017
8:15-9:50 a.m. Old Main Boardroom

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

Call to Order

Co-Chair R. Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of October 4, 2017

The minutes of October 4, 2017 were approved.

Updates

Provost Comrie provided the Committee with several updates:

- Dean search – The College of Education Dean search committee is continuing the interview process for the next dean.
- Salary increase program – The 2018 Salary Increase Program is underway this fall semester with plans that the annual merit increase program will be implemented beginning in January 2018.
- OpEd Project – The national OpEd Project’s mission is to increase the number of women thought leaders. Here at the UA and within the Tucson community the Project is helping women share their knowledge and expertise through writing, and includes a fellowship and leadership development opportunity for women in a partnership between the UA and the Women’s Foundation of Southern Arizona. The Provost plans to expand this opportunity across campus.

Several members asked questions about the UA’s plans to seek permission to leave the State health care system in order to reduce costs and to ensure that access to appropriate health care services be available to all. Members also asked the impact of leaving the State health care system on current and future retirees. The Provost suggested that the

Allison Vaillancourt could provide further explanation and details around these issues in a future meeting.

Members asked about plans for future cluster hires. The Provost shared that any cluster hire process would benefit from lessons learned from the first cluster hire process, would seek input from the campus on focus areas, and be transparent. He encouraged members to suggest focus areas.

Discussion: Our UA Rankings Strategy – What Metrics Matter?

Members continued the discussion from the last meeting on the rankings by the US News & World Report and other organizations. Specifically, in small groups, members discussed which US News & World Report rankings matter most in terms of who we want the UA to be, or are most important to our core identity. There was strong consensus that student retention and graduation rates were the most important. There was also strong agreement that UA should care about such rankings. M. Miller shared the basics of efforts in the College of Law to model the effects of investments. Members suggested that Miller could demonstrate the modeling in a future SPBAC meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Future Meetings

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	8:15 am – 9:50 am	Old Main Boardroom
December 20, 2017	8:15 am – 9:50 am	Old Main Boardroom