Minutes of the IFC meeting on 3-13-2014


The following items were discussed at the IFC meeting after the agenda was approved:

1. Steve Knorr informed that IFC that President Wolfe is continuing his ‘Show Me Value’ tour to promote the University at various locations, largely rural. There is quite an appreciation for his effort. Steve also reported that the House budget committee is trying to complete work this week. Currently it looks like there will be a 3-5% increase in budget being proposed; the House budget tends to be not real, comes before Senate’s budget so the House budget is a negotiating stance. In May the System will know the actual budget. 50/50 capital projects are going through, currently ok. S&T Explosives building, MU Engineering hall retrofit, UMKC retrofit, UMSL new business bldg. are the UM System projects being considered. Maintenance and repair bonding proposal also is in legislature.

2. Gary Allen reported that the security training modules are being developed and the IFC members will get to review for feedback. Strategic funding requests for PeopleSoft replacement are being pursued. There is a mandate to report by end of current year on ERP software to present to system leadership. In light of budget challenges, HR & Finance to are not spending big & in FY 15; Current improvements are under retention initiative, flat System IT budget and recommendations on ERP system towards less complicated processes (e.g. fewer approvals per form). Most of IT talent spends all effort on keeping things running.

3. Steve Graham and Hank Foley presented the Faculty Workload Task Force document. It was recommended to retitle the document as T/TT faculty Workload document and remove references to NTT unless necessary. There were other questions but the general sense was that the document is ready for press.

4. President Wolfe recommended that the workload policy be taken to General Officers and push for adoption on campus at policy level. Suspicion is that the workload policy/CRR is not being executed well at all department levels. Discussions followed on the motive/budget for departments to do things differently and make improvement. It was felt that the departments (chairs) found it easier to hire NTTs than fix tenured faculty. Budget mode has been on survival mode instead of striving to improve performance.