STANDING COMMITTEES

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS) Recommendation and Budgeting Principles FY17-19

INFORMATION

This item is being presented for information only.

BACKGROUND

This presentation is an annual report to the Board of Regents by this year’s Chair (Alice B. Popejoy) and Vice Chair (TBA) of the Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS).

The information included in this document will be covered in an oral presentation and discussion, and the critical background information is contained primarily in two attachments: the first is a formal Recommendation passed by two consecutive years of PACS on the use of tuition dollars for capital projects. The second is a revised set of budgeting principles approved by PACS for use by the Board of Regents, the Office of Planning and Budgeting, UW Treasury, Planning & Management, President Cauce, and Provost Baldasty in the drafting and implementation of the FY17-19 budget.

The previous PACS Budgeting Principles were presented at last year’s June meeting of the Board of Regents, and were intended for use in FY16.

Attachments
1. PACS Recommendation on the Use of Student Tuition Dollars for Capital Projects
2. Budgeting Principles: Fiscal Years 2017-19
3. Presenter Biographical Information
PACS Recommendation on the Use of Student Tuition Dollars for Capital Projects

Prior to the institutional implementation of Activity Based Budgeting (ABB), the flow of funds through the University of Washington was less transparent than it is today. The fact that student tuition dollars were indirectly being spent to fund capital projects on campus was not widely known or well understood. Since the implementation of ABB, the trend of using current [and future] student tuition dollars for capital projects has become apparent, and the question has arisen as to whether or not this is justifiable. The implications of approving capital projects whose funding source comes from bonds purchased through the UW Internal Lending Program (ILP) are such that future student tuition dollars are anticipated to continue to pay for capital projects decades after the initial approval of the project.

Given that Washington State places the responsibility on the state legislature of maintaining and funding capital projects on public land such as the University of Washington, it is the strong opinion of PACS that student tuition dollars should not be included as part of the initial financial strategy of funding capital projects on the University of Washington’s three campuses. As such, any decrease or lack of investment in capital projects by the state legislature should not create an additional direct or indirect cost burden for students. When academic and administrative units make the budgetary decision to spend tuition dollars on buildings, these projects come at the expense of opportunities for students, including but not limited to Teaching and Research Assistantships, student employment, and paid research positions for undergraduates. Students suffer an opportunity cost in the form of fewer positions for offsetting financial burdens and a growing dearth of essential resources and services.

The University of Washington should exercise extensive lobbying and advocacy efforts to make clear to the Washington State legislature the University’s capital needs, and prioritize projects with least potential for alternative sources of funding. In the case that lobbying efforts are unsuccessful in obtaining state funds for capital projects deemed essential by the Board of Regents, private donations should be actively pursued. Advancement efforts of the UW Administration should prioritize such projects with the intention of obtaining full funding through private investments.

The situation may arise where the UW administration feels that the use of student tuition dollars is the only way to finance such projects. In this event, PACS recommends the following procedure be utilized prior to selecting an architect and requesting the project as an information item at the Board of Regents:

1) A Dean or Chancellor whose School/College has identified local funds (student tuition dollars) for financing a capital project either in part or in full shall gain approval from their School/College's Student Budget Advisory Council (College Council).
   a. In the event the School/College does not have an active College Council that advises the Dean or Chancellor on budget and policy principles, the Dean shall work with PACS and the Provost to set up a Student Advisory Council to serve in this advisory role before proceeding.

2) College Council leaders and the Dean or Chancellor proposing a capital project shall present to PACS and gain approval from ASUW and GPSS for projects on the Seattle campus, ASUWT for projects on the Tacoma campus, and ASUWB for projects on the Bothell campus.
   a. This presentation shall include the components described in the Services and Activities Fee (SAF) Committee Policy on Capital Expenditures:
      i. Explanation of student involvement in the formulation of the request;
      ii. Explanations of other sources of funding that have or will be sought;
      iii. A tentative budget outline, including the per student cost; and
      iv. A tentative timeline of action.
Budgeting Principles: Fiscal Years 2017-19

Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS)

Finalized 27 May 2016

For consideration by the University of Washington Board of Regents, the Office of Planning and Budgeting, UW Treasury, Planning and Management, the President, and the Provost.

Presented to the Board of Regents: June 9, 2016

What follows are a general mission and principles to be considered by the Provost and other budget officers at the University of Washington during the drafting and implementation of the FY17-19 budget as well as future budgets until the submission of new principles by the Chair of the Provost’s Advisory Committee for Students (PACS).
Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS)

The mission of the Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS) is to give students a voice in University budgeting and policy decisions so as to maintain access to the University of Washington’s high-quality educational opportunities. Working towards the goal of sustainable budgets across the University, PACS represents students’ interests while promoting shared governance as well as fair and equal access to information relevant to decision making.

PACS ensures that investments are having their intended impact by working with student groups the different colleges to understand and advocate for students’ needs. Additionally, PACS provides a leadership role in educating Student Advisory Councils (College Councils) about the budget process and resources about how to have effective budget conversations with UW Deans and Chancellors.

PACS Budgeting Principles, FY17-19

Principle 1: Respect the University’s Status as a Public Institution

The University of Washington is a public institution; therefore its budget and policies should reflect this charge. As such, PACS supports the following:

1. Budgetary models that seek to reduce or constrain the growth of tuition and fees for all students.
2. Student tuition dollars should not be included as part of the financial strategy of funding major capital projects on the University of Washington’s three campuses. In the event that the UW administration has exhausted its efforts in lobbying for state money as well as private fundraising to support a major, high-priority capital project and feels that tuition dollars are the only way to finance such an investment, then students should be consulted early and often. Please see the PACS Recommendation on the use of student tuition dollars for capital projects as a guide to which student groups should be consulted when, and how they should be involved in the decision making process.
3. Uphold the moratorium on new fee-based programs and promote state reinvestment in those already existing.
4. Programs should never substantially increase tuition or fees during the course of an individual’s education as a way to compensate for decreased state or institutional support. Before Deans propose to increase tuition levels or fees for any student category, student advisory councils at the local school/college level should be consulted in addition to PACS.
5. Transparent and accessible information about major institutional contractual relationships and sponsorships from corporations or other entities; students should have opportunities to provide feedback about these relationships and contracts.
6. Research investigating the impact of increased enrollment and growth of the number of fee-based programs on our ability to serve our mission as a public institution.
**Principle 2: Increase Access**

All qualified students should have the ability to pursue and complete an education at the University of Washington regardless of socioeconomic status.

As such, PACS believes the UW should:

1. Explore new opportunities for financial aid services for low-income groups while maintaining and protecting existing programs such as Husky Promise.
2. Work to address unique and growing unmet need for aid in middle-income groups.
3. Ensure that statewide and university funding do not dictate the access that students have to the academic major of their choice.
4. Programs should actively advertise all costs of education, both direct and indirect. All programs should also collect and provide graduate employment statistics and the average median income of recent graduates.
5. Removing the burden of financing additional, group-specific, non-academic programming for individual groups who may require them. Costs of services for populations such as international students, students with disabilities, and student parents should be collectively born.

**Principle 3: Enhance Educational Quality**

The University should provide a high quality education and learning environment through classroom instruction, research, the campus experience, and by striving to do the following:

1. Create an inclusive campus culture for students, staff and faculty through measures such as trainings on implicit (unconscious) bias awareness, stereotypes, and cultural competency.
2. Promote diversity among faculty and staff so that the diversity of students is reflected in the leadership of the institution and students from all underrepresented groups may have access to visible role models.
3. Maintain funding for teaching and research assistant positions, and encourage academic units to expand these opportunities. These positions are essential to the quality and competitiveness of our institution, create opportunities for students to develop professionally, and are the national standard of employment and training for graduate students.
4. Emphasize pedagogical integrity as units adopt new ways of providing courses, especially in the online context.
5. Prioritize administrative services, advising functions, and tutoring programs that directly contribute to the academic mission. In particular, services should strive to accommodate low-income, first-generation, transfer, and returning students.
6. Focus on the student as a whole. Attempts should be made to protect critical functions such as campus safety, mental and physical health, childcare and other services that contribute to the student experience.
7. Acknowledge the value of interdisciplinary education and academic exploration by ensuring that these opportunities are not diminished by financial policy decisions, which may or may not be related to the implementation of Activity Based Budgeting (ABB).
Alice B. Popejoy  
PACS Chair, 2015-16

Alice B. Popejoy is this year’s Chair of the Provost Advisory Committee for Students (PACS) and a fourth-year PhD Candidate in Public Health Genetics with a Certificate in Statistical Genetics at the University of Washington, Seattle. She has formerly served as President of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate (GPSS), GPSS Executive Senator, Executive Liaison to the Faculty Senate Council on Research, and Chair of the GPSS Science Policy Committee. Alice received her Bachelor of Arts from Hamilton College in 2009 with a double major in Biology and French, and spent one year living in Paris. Alice has worked in the California State Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Association for Women in Science (AWIS). Her academic and professional interests lie in the intersection of biological light receptors, genomic research, bioethics and public health initiatives combined with a passion for science communication and effective advocacy. In her spare time, Alice teaches parkour in Seattle, spends time exploring the outdoors, and enjoys visiting her friends and family in her home state of California.

Kevin Celustka  
PACS Vice Chair, 2015-16

Kevin Celustka is a Junior majoring in International Relations. Kevin grew up in Wenatchee, WA and before coming to UW he was a Rotary Youth Exchange student to Belgium where he studied French. He has been involved in student government through the ASUW since his first quarter at UW when he joined UW Leaders and the ASUW Senate as the Administrative Assistant. Since then, he has continued to serve in the Senate as Vice Speaker, and then Speaker, and as a UW Leaders Mentor for the past two years. Kevin is pre-med and hopes to engage in clinical medicine, research, and health policy in the future (hopefully after becoming a Double Dawg at UW Med!). He spent last summer in South Africa as a Student Intern for Child Family Health International, and is developing his honors thesis surrounding the emigration of healthcare professionals from the country. He currently does research at Fred Hutch in the Boeckh Lab under his mentor Steven Pergam, and will be spending the summer as an intern in the Fred Hutch Summer Undergraduate Research Program. He joined PACS last year as an ASUW appointee and is excited at the opportunity to serve the UW and the Provost as PACS Chair.