

# USFSP BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING: 2/12/08

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**Members Present:** Steve Ritch, Margaret Hewitt, Mike Williams, Ashok Dhingra, Kent Kelso, Vivian Fueyo, Chris D'Elia, Julie Jakway, Chris Buckler; Gerald Notaro

**Visitors Present:** Joneen Maczis, Frank Biafora

**Introduction and Charge:** A. Dhingra introduced the members of the newly constituted Budget Council. He noted the charge of the Council was to "make recommendations regarding budget issues at USF St. Petersburg". He reviewed alternative funding methodologies and the relationship of USF St. Petersburg with USF (Tampa).

**Presentation:** J. Jakway used a PowerPoint presentation to provide information to the Council including: review of the charge; national, state and university-related economic factors; Budget Council tasks for spring 2008; timeline of activities; budget terminology; 2007/08 Original Budget Summary by Fund; 2007/08 Revised Budget Summary for General Revenue and enrollment funding.

### **Discussion Items:**

*Communication.* A. Dhingra led a discussion of communication tools, including: Chancellor's website, open forums, student input through a formal SGA-sponsored session, A&P and Staff Council meetings. Communication pipelines were discussed both in gathering information from constituents and in providing information to groups when available. It was suggested that Regional Vice Chancellors and Deans communicate regularly and often to faculty and staff in their areas; that communications are frequent and indicative of the importance of the message and the value of individuals. Also, it was suggested that supervisors ensure that all employees receive copies of communications regardless of computer access.

*Indirect Costs.* A discussion took place regarding the amount of indirect cost paid for central services and the related value of the services.

*Enrollment Targets.* A future topic for discussion will be enrollment targets and their effect on the budget.

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*Administrative organization.* A. Dhingra led a discussion regarding the scarcity of funds and developing creative ways to make administrative and financial services more efficient at the college/division/institutional level, while providing minimal impact on effectiveness. Proposed methodologies should include efficiencies vs. redundancies, accreditation and mandates, and enrollment positioning.

*Funding Formula.* A copy of the summarized funding formula for Florida universities was included in the information pack. S. Ritch suggested an evaluation of the funding formula in relation to USFSP funding levels.

*Upcoming Meetings:* The group decided to meet weekly on Tuesday from 2-4 pm until the requested report is complete.