

**Budget and Planning Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 25, 2011**  
**Inlow Hall 201**

Present: Ken Watson, Tracy Hayes, Beth Upshaw, Shari Carpenter, John Knudson-Martin, Katrina Gaines, Sue Cain, Doug Kaigler, Mike Heather, Travis Paulson and Teresa Carson-Mastrude

1) Ken Watson called the meeting to order at 12:05pm

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

**Motion:** John Knudson-Martin moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

**Second:** Mike Heather

**Action:** Motion passed

3) OLD BUSINESS:

- a) President Davies met with the group to discuss the state budget shortfall. Davies reported that during the next biennium, we will see bigger cuts (approx. 20-25% decrease from this fiscal year. This is on top of the 14-15% cuts that we have just taken. The group then discussed with President Davies the amount that students are paying and if this amount covers the cost of their education. The group discussed the cuts that were made previously and noted that the areas that have the larger % of faculty, staff, students will most likely face higher cuts than other areas. It was noted that members of those areas facing larger cuts wished to have input during the reduction process. President Davies assured the group that he will make every effort to meet with all areas of campus. The group also agreed that ultimately, President Davies will be the one who needs to guide EOU to where it needs to be in 20 years.

Davies noted that internal/external demands will be looked at in the upcoming months. If programs are not healthy or mission critical, the university must look at cutting them.

The group discussed with President Davies the percentage of cuts EOU is facing for next year and the percent that EOU needs to grow which is approximately 15%. EOU will not know the total percentage of cuts that need to be made until the budget is settled.

President Davies also discussed with the group that EOU was in great shape until the mid-year cuts and that we are not the only institution that is facing this financial problem. The budget issue is state wide and affects all of the schools. The group discussed the idea of beginning to make cuts to be ahead of the process. President Davies noted to the group that not all position vacancies will be filled. EOU needs to demonstrate to the OUS Board that we have a plan that will ensure growth and financial stability. EOU must look at charging out-of-state tuition and also raising tuition so that the cost of the student's education is

covered. Davies told the group that we will be looking to aggressively market to international students.

President Davies then discussed with the group the Post-BART reports. Davies feels that BART served the purpose at the time as EOU needed to get in control of its financial situation. At this point in time, EOU needs to increase efficiencies and revenue. We must be strategic where cuts or investments are made. Small classes with very few students don't make money for the institution. Classes with 13.5 students and above will make money for the institution. The group discussed the issue of extremely large classes not being feasible. Faculty noted that they feel it is important to make each student feel important and that is not possible with an extremely large classes. President Davies noted that last year EOU hired several new staff and at this point EOU should be able to handle the increase in the number of students. The group discussed the need to take a look at last year's initiatives. Did they pay off and accomplish the intended goal? Are there more students taking classes where few faculty was hired? The group then discussed marketing strategies (market online specific, etc).

The group noted that self-assessment needs to happen asap and that all members of campus need to attend upcoming campus forums and meetings.

The next meeting will be February 8<sup>th</sup> at noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 1pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Carson-Mastrude