

# Meeting Notes

## Integrated Planning Committee Meeting

January 23, 2017

3:30pm – 4:30pm

A-5014

### Attendance:

**Younis Abdalla**, GSU

**Paul Chancey**, CIAP

**Dr. James Feehan**, Humanities & Social Science

**Dr. Noreen Golfman**, Provost & VP (Academic) (Chair)

**Jillian Kavanaugh**, Manager, Marine

**Renata Lang**, MUNSU

**Keith Matthews**, Associate Director, Academic Budgets

**Lori Pike**, Budget Office

**Dr. Laura Robinson**, Arts & Social Science, Grenfell

**Dr. Aimée Surprenant**, Graduate Studies

**Dr. Ian Sutherland**, Music

**Lynn Taylor**, CIAP

**Dr. Wilf Zerbe**, Business Administration, St. John's

### Absent:

**Dr. Donald McKay**, Medicine

### 1. Review of meeting notes from January 9, 2017

The meeting notes from January 9 were accepted by the committee.

### 2. Statement of Strategic Direction

Dr. Golfman indicated that she intended to suspend the strategic direction discussion for the time being so that the committee could focus on other aspects of its mandate. She thanked Dr. Zerbe and Dr. Sutherland for submitting a document for review as had been discussed at the last meeting. She felt the document would be useful at a later stage once the strategic directions were more clearly identified.

### 3. Budget Presentation by Lori Pike

Memorial was given some direction regarding its operating grant from the provincial government for the next three years. Vice-Presidents Council has been planning for a reduced budget and considering various scenarios. Units have been made aware that they will have to plan responsibly to manage the anticipated budget reductions. Senior executives will be meeting with government to discuss the budget and their expectations for managing the pension shortfall, which should provide further clarity for budgeting purposes.

Dr. Golfman asked Lori Pike to present Memorial's 2017-18 Budget Submission. The presentation included information about projected revenues and expenditures for 2017-18 and preliminary estimates for 2018-19 and 2019-20 as well. At present, the budget "gap" is approximately \$6.2 million for 2017-18, \$4.0 million for 2018-19 and 4.3 million for 2019-2020. She provided detailed information about the anticipated adjustments to expenditures for the coming years. Her projections for revenue do not include any increases in tuition beyond those that have already been approved. Her presentation did not include the faculty of Medicine, which receives its government grant from the Department of Health.

Discussion:

- The budget as presented does not account for the worst case scenario regarding shortfalls in the pension fund. As currently constituted, this is a very significant liability and it is not clear how the university will deal with it.
- The university has been through one round of attrition during the current fiscal year and will undergo a second round in 2018-19. This is in addition to the cuts in the government grant set out in the provincial budget.
- There is very little flexibility in the operating budget. Some costs, such as utilities are essential and increasing. Efforts will continue to ensure the university is running as efficiently as possible.
- Any flexibility that does exist in salaries and benefits is largely reliant on turnover and attrition.
- It is clear that the status quo is not sustainable given the current budget realities.
- Budgets for the Marine Institute and Grenfell campuses are separate from the St. John's campus, but they are facing the same budget issues.
- Identifying strategic priorities will be important in managing allocations.
- Planning for the small picture, as well as the big picture will be important as it relates to enrolment, faculty compliments, program offerings, etc.

#### 4. Other Business

No other business was raised.

The next meeting of the IPC will be held on Monday, February 6 at 3:30pm in A-2029.