

Meeting Notes

Integrated Planning Committee Meeting

March 4, 2019

3:30 – 4:30pm

A-2029

Attendance:

Dr. Noreen Golfman, Provost & VP (Academic) (Chair)
Dr. Sean Cadigan, Associate VP (Academic)
Dr. Claude Daley, Engineering and Applied Science
Dr. Danny Dyer, Science
Bailey Howard, MUNSU
Sana Jamil, GSU
Jillian Kavanagh, Marine Institute
Roxanne Millan, Office of the Provost
Dr. Ian Sutherland, Music
Lori Pike, Budget Office
Jennifer Batten, Office of the Provost
Keith Matthews, CIAP
Réanne Kinsella, CIAP

Unable to attend:

Dr. Neil Bose, VP (Research)
Dr. Laura Robinson, Arts & Social Science, Grenfell
Dr. Aimée Surprenant, Graduate Studies

1. Review of February 14, 2019 meeting notes

The Committee reviewed the meeting notes from February 14, 2019. One change was requested to specifically note that the committee was not unanimous that a tuition increase was essential or that a progressive tuition model should be recommended.

2. 2019 Operating Budget Report

The Committee reviewed and discussed the most recent draft of the Operating Budget Report, with a particular focus on the recommendations. The following points were brought forward or discussed:

- Uncertainty remains regarding the timing of the pension payment.
- The Committee discussed the notion of presenting tuition rates differently to reflect the funding the government has provided through the grant-in-lieu of a tuition increase.
- Most members reiterated their support for a progressive tuition model viewing it as a more fair approach with demonstrated success in other provinces. One member opposed the idea and cautioned the group regarding possible unintended consequences on enrolment and the potential burden of administering the program. The Committee agreed that a progressive tuition model would require government support and administration.
- It was suggested that the current tuition schedule be included in the report to provide context to recommendations concerning tuition.
- It was suggested that the report note the importance of transparency, accountability, and communication regarding the implementation of recommendations, particularly regarding tuition, so that the University community is aware of the way the additional revenues will be distributed.
- Regarding recommendation 3, it was suggested that annual inflationary increases be applied beginning fall 2020. It was also suggested that the wording be revised to "at least 3%".
- It was noted that the draft report does not provide recommendations to address the existing budget gap. However, Committee members largely agreed that Memorial must address challenges such as deferred maintenance even in times of budgetary constraint.

- A suggestion was made to rearrange the order of recommendations so that those regarding tuition are more closely linked.
- A suggestion was made to clarify the meaning of "tuition incentive model" in recommendation 7.
- It was suggested that the report include information regarding the Voluntary Retirement Program (VRP) and the savings achieved.
- It was also suggested that an individual outside of IPC review the report to ensure it is clear.

3. Other business

The Working Group will circulate a new draft for review in advance of the next meeting of IPC. The next meeting of PBC will be held on the same day; therefore feedback will be gathered from PBC and communicated to IPC during the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:33pm.