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The Troubadour, Issue 48 (February 21, 2006)

Cardinal Stritch University

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THE TROUBADOUR

FEBRUARY 21, 2006

ISSUE 48

BUDGET PROCESS PROCEEDS WITH OPEN SESSIONS, BRAINSTORMING

As the budget process continues, Karen Walrath, vice president for business and finance, and Executive Vice President Peter Holbrook held four open meetings for members of the campus community the second week of February. Eighty-five people attended in Milwaukee plus a number in Madison and Minnesota who were connected via interactive television.

At the meetings, three various budget scenarios were shared and questions were taken from the participants. One scenario looked at the potential 2006-07 budget using numbers as of Dec. 31, 2005. The second was based on the revenue and expense numbers from which the 2005-06 budget was formulated. The third illustrated what Stritch's financial condition would be now if enrollment projections had been met.

"We're examining all three and trying to come up with ways to maximize revenue and minimize expenses," Walrath said "It's a fluid process, and nothing final has been determined yet. We will share developments as they arise."

Additional brainstorming sessions with about 40 representatives from all segments of the campus were held Feb. 3 and 10. (See *list of participants at right*). At those sessions, participants were asked to come up with potential short-term and long-term budget solutions and specific ideas on how to cut University expenses and increase revenue.

Holbrook stressed that the University has to move away from being 91% tuition dependent and added that any budget discussions must use Stritch's vision, mission, and values as guiding principles. The notion of using these guiding principles as a tool in decision-making was brought forward by the Rev. Dr. Trinetta McCray.

"The University needs realistic and obtainable revenue and expense goals that allow us to maximize revenue and limit budget cuts. At the same time, we need to start planning long term for the 2007-08 budget," he said.

More non-tuition revenue streams, including donations, government appropriations, grants and contracts, and earnings from investments and the endowment, are essential, Holbrook said. Other areas that need to be examined include expanding geographic markets and programs; reaching out to different student populations, including Hispanics and retired people; and ending reliance on any one college or academic area to carry enrollment.

Other suggestions from the meetings included offering more non-business evening, interdisciplinary and summer programs; increasing out-of-state, international and athletic recruiting, and practicing conservation on campus, including energy conservation, moving to expanded electronic versus paper communication, and streamlining operations to reduce expenses.

In one discussion, it was noted that people in the various offices and departments often have the best ideas on how to encourage conservation and save money. Such suggestions should be sent to newideas@stritch.edu

Holbrook shared words of encouragement from "Good to Great," by Jim Collins. "Retain faith that you will prevail in the end, regardless of the difficulties. *And at the same time*, confront the most brutal facts of your current reality, whatever they may be."

BUDGET MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Norm Algood – Institute for Professional Development (IPD)
 Kristen Bachman
 Tia Bojar
 Connie Borowicz
 Marna Boyle
 Mike Brauer
 Jim Casey
 Jeff Christensen – Institute for Professional Development (IPD)
 Pat Clemens
 Carol Drury
 Pat Ellis
 Barb Fischer
 Jack Glynn
 Linda Gordy
 Pete Holbrook
 Peter Jonas
 Dennis King
 Sr. Margaret Klotz
 Fr. Bob Lotz
 Trinetta McCray
 John Mueller
 Laine Philippa
 Sr. Mary Ann Polasek
 Kathleen Radionoff
 Suzy Richards
 Chris Robinson
 Bill Roden
 Sr. Mary Lea Schneider
 Sr. Sylvia Ann Sheldon
 Linda Steiner
 Lori Stutte
 Mike Thompson
 Steve Tracy
 Ruth Waite
 Karen Walrath
 Scott Weaver
 Paul Weber
 David Wegener
 Mary Jo Winston

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD CRUCIAL TO RESEARCH

Because the use of humans in research projects is important to University activities, an Institutional Review Board (IRB) is required to protect people who volunteer to participate. IRBs also protect the University and its employees. Stritch's system includes college advisory boards and a central IRB.

"Research is important to maintaining the richness of teaching and is a significant mechanism to maintaining visibility in one's profession, because it leads to publication of research results," said Terry Steele, chair of Stritch's central IRB.

"The work of the college and central IRBs are important because they: a) provide information to researchers concerning their ethical and legal responsibilities toward the people who participate in their research, and b) review research protocols to ensure researchers treat their participants within the government's ethical and legal guidelines," Steele said.

Colleges and universities nationwide are "being forced to upgrade their IRB structures due to increasing federal rules and regulations and bad publicity surrounding adverse events that make it into local and national newspapers," said Jim Casey, director of the Office of Sponsored Programs. A key trend in the federal regulations involves HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) and the use of personal medical information in projects.

Casey also said it is increasingly important to train faculty and staff in the basics of using human participants in research projects, something that Stritch will need to implement in the coming years.

Goals to strengthen Stritch's IRB system, Steele said, include making certain that all faculty, staff, and students understand the types of research that must be reviewed by the IRB as well as clarifying and simplifying the process of submitting research protocols for IRB approval.

IRB information is located on the Stritch website at: <http://library.stritch.edu/irb.htm>. This site is also accessible through the Office of Sponsored Programs Web site.

In addition to Steele, who represents the College of Arts and Sciences, other members of the central IRB are Gwen Rivkin (COB), Joan Whitman (COE), Sharon Garrett (CON), Maria Minikel (non-institutional representative), Emma Palmer (non-institutional representative) and Casey (ex-officio, non-voting). Rivkin, Whitman, Garrett and Steele also chair their individual college advisory boards.

Individuals who have any questions are asked to contact their college advisory board chair or Steele, at Ext. 4474.



THE TROUBADOUR

The Troubadour supports the overall mission, goals and objectives of Cardinal Stritch University, and is meant to serve as a communications tool for the campus community. If you have feedback or story ideas, please contact Public Relations at prdept@stritch.edu.

For complete information on University public relations, media relations and publications, please see the PR brochure, which is available in MyStritch by clicking on "Public Relations Information" in the "Other Employee Info Pages" folder under the "Employee Info" tab.

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Linda Steiner, Jim Casey, Terry Steele

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Brett Kell

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