

MINUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY BUDGET COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
5241 N. Maple, M/S TA 43
Fresno, California 93740-8027
Office of the Academic Senate
Ext. 8-2743

October 17, 2012

Members Present: J. Constable, P. Newell, R. Sanchez, J. Parks, A. Parham, R. Maldonado

Members Absent: D. Bukofzer (excused), D. Nef (excused)

Visitors: None

The meeting was called to order by Chair Constable at 3:38 p.m. in Thomas 117.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the minutes of October 10, 2012.

2. Agenda. MSC to approve the agenda as distributed.

3. Communications and Announcements

R. Maldonado and J. Parks received notification of their appointment to the Level A Review Committee.

4. New Business

None.

5. Discussion of the Professional Science Master's Degree in Water Resources Management (WRM).

The Committee noted that the PSM in Water Management Resources was an appropriate program for the expertise present at the University. The program appears to be built following the same programmatic essentials as the GIS degree. The proposal indicates there is interest in the program based on the survey data but it was noted that few of the questions presented in the proposal addressed the specific need for a degree in Water Resources Management.

The committee also was interested the availability of other similar online PSM degrees at other universities, both within and beyond the CSU. There was also interest in programs beyond the strict identification of Water Resources Management that might build a similar skill set, but not be identified as WRM specifically (e.g., a geography program with a water focus; or a GIS program centered on water resources).

There was also discussion that the program requires the development of nine new courses that are apparently not available in face-to-face format, as such courses of

potential interest to normally matriculated students are unavailable. It was also noted that the program would be taught based on faculty overload. This raised concern that since the course sequence is highly prescribed it will require that several classes be taught each semester to support the program. This will require faculty to commit to a teaching overload; if state support of the University continues to decline and faculty are committed to teaching a full WTU load of face-to-face courses, the ability to teach the program may be compromised.

It was unclear what the impacts of the proposed program were on Library resources required. It was noted that campus reimbursement of 15% of gross program receipts, although not directed specifically to the library, would support potential programmatic needs.

The Committee noted that the costs of the program as described were relatively minor with a breakeven point at just seven students.

6. Discussion of the Budget Model

Discussion to be continued next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 pm

Agenda for Wednesday 24 October 2012

1. Approval of minutes of 17 October 2012.
2. Approval of agenda for 24 October 2012.
3. Communications and Announcements.
4. New Business.
5. Discussion of the Professional Science Master's Degree in Water Resources Management with S. Moore and Provost Covino.
6. Continued discussion on the budget model details.