

INSTRUCTIONALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES (IRA) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 9, 2019 1:00 PM BMU 205
MINUTES

Members Present: Alejandra Gonzalez-Zuniga, Harmony Ordaz, Jared Geiser (chair), Samuel Akinwande, Adam Irish, David Scholz, Dennis O'Connor (proxy for Aoyagi), Kishore Joseph

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Jeni Kitchell, Jennifer Mays, Kim Williams, Mary Wallmark, Stephen Cummins

Staff Absent: none

Guests: Melody Stapleton and Seema Sehrawat (ECC), Robert Goldensley and Michael Musick (IEEE/Micromouse), Kristy Moreno and Jillian Harris-Rivera (CASA), Katie Apple and Cameron Crawford (SOTA), Perry Cheney and Edgar Lear (SAE Baja), Blake Cordoza and Jake Hibma (SAE Formula), Kendall Ross (Rec Sports)

- I. Call to Order – Jared called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.
- II. Approval of 5.2.19 Minutes
 - a. Sam motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Alejandra; motion passed 8-0-0.

Items below were not discussed in Agenda order.

- III. New Business
 - a. Action Items –
 - i. 2019-20 Budget Request presentation – College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Construction Management – Melody Stapleton.
 - ECC currently has 14 teams and 351 students participating. The competitions are expensive. Two hundred seventy-three students have out of pocket expenses totaling \$29,492. The teams do a lot of fundraising. Student representatives from Baja and Formula 1 activities spoke. The teams stay in tents at competitions because that is what they can afford. Students often have to travel in their own cars, not all students can attend, and they have to settle for inferior materials. The students recently competed in Tennessee. They came in 2nd out of 96 teams. Next year there will be two additional teams. They want an additional \$152,000 in base allocation. Students spoke about not having the money to send all students who want to compete. Many students have to pay for travel out of their pockets. Students are recruited for jobs at these competitions. One student was recently picked up by Volvo. Companies will do interviews on the spot so it is important that all students involved in the activity have the same opportunity.
 - ii. Request for Exemplary Performance Funding – HFA School of the Arts, ceramics - \$2,580 – Cameron Crawford.
 - After their strong performance last year, Ceramics was invited to return to the California Conference for the Advancement of the Ceramic Arts in Davis. Students travel to the competition. There is a series of demonstrations, lectures, and exhibitions of student work. The event attracts programs from all over the country. It is a very strong team-building event. Students have gone on to have careers in teaching and working as apprentices for artists. Students convert the

empty space into a suitable professional exhibit space. They go down on a Thursday and transform the space, they open on Friday, and Friday evening there is a reception where students present their work. They also raise funds by selling their pottery. They raised enough to attend their national conference. They brought 16 students to the EP event but others trickled down on their own. They are asking for funds to pay for hotel, truck rental and fuel. The college of HFA purchased their event passes.

- Adam motioned to suspend the rules to vote on the EP request. Alejandra seconded; motioned passed 8-0-0.
 - Adam motioned to vote to approve the EP request for ceramics; Harmony seconded; motion passed 8-0-0.
- iii. Discussion and vote to approve revised “IRA Work Study Guidelines.” Members voted to defer until after Budget discussion (see v.).
- iv. Discussion and vote to approve revised “Baseline Expenditure Guidelines.”
- Adam motioned to defer Agenda Items iii, iv, and v until after the Baseline Budget allocation discussion. Alejandra seconded; motion passed 8-0-0.
- v. Discussion and vote on Baseline Budget allocations.
- Adam met with the faculty members of the IRA Advisory Committee outside of the regularly scheduled meeting to revise scenario 4. They used information from IRA Annual Reports to come up with a new scenario 4 that is based on number of students participating in IRA activities/programs. Adam also circulated a letter he had written for the provost that explains the reasoning for the scenario. He requested that voting members all sign the letter in order to present unity. [Members did not sign the letter during the meeting.]
 - The model includes a \$152,000 (40%) cut to Athletics with those dollars redirected to HFA and ECC. Other colleges/programs remain at or near last year’s funding level. This change is meant to create a more dynamic model that does not give special treatment to some programs and not others. Staff voiced concern about the committee making a direct comparison between Athletics and the other programs. The University made the decision to fund athletics and the student fee was recently increased based on what Athletics needs to operate. The number of people competing and the amount of travel are impacted by the rules of the conference in which they compete. Staff also had concerns about the reallocation seeming punitive because it is such a drastic cut. Concern was also raised for the colleges other than HFA and ECC who did not have their baselines increased. Staff asked if faculty members had considered using the residual shown on the spreadsheet, approximately \$37,000, to increase funding to HFA, Model United Nations (BSS) [or Orion (CME)] using the historical scenario. Adam commented that he had already addressed that earlier.
- Concerns voiced: Student members receiving a copy of the letter and the revised scenario 4 budget model just prior to the meeting. Students were reminded by staff that voting does not have to be unanimous. Percent of students on the spreadsheet comes from the Annual Reports and is the number of students participating in the programs. Athletics has reserves because this is

their only source of funding. Rec Sports participation is not represented in the proposed model. There is a vast difference between programs and definition in participation so it seems problematic to create a model based on this.

- Jennifer read a statement from the Provost to explain protocol in the event that a drastic reallocation is proposed. *“The EM is silent on a timeline for the recommendation of baseline IRA allocations. If the committee is unable to make a reasonable (in line with current) recommendation by the end of the semester, the provost will assume that the committee was silent on the recommendation, and she’ll move forward with allocating the same amounts to each unit that was made this current academic year. It is important to have a predictable pattern of practice for the units to rely on, so they know their allocation, and can plan programming over the summer. If there is a radical departure from the current allocation scheme, the committee must provide a rational, transitional plan that has received broader input from the stakeholders. The committee has to have a consultative process if they are making a massive change. If incremental changes are made, the committee will still need to provide a thorough analysis and rationale for such changes when their recommendation is submitted, and stakeholders will need to be included in the conversations. Hundreds of people are depending on these dollars. The committee members are expected to provide sensitive representation of the broad group of stakeholders, not just solely from the college/department/unit from where they come from. It must engage the stakeholders (similar to student learning fee increase with open forums, media, communications, etc.) The provost will plan to attend a meeting in the fall to discuss committee responsibilities and her perspective.”*
- Staff voiced concern that a drastic cut to athletics or any other program from one year to the next would have a negative impact on the program and affect students. Student members commented that they did not have enough data to make a decision, that some members should “watch their language,” and that the impact on students who pay these fees should have more weight in these discussions.
- Adam motioned to approve Scenario 4; Dennis seconded; motion passed 5-0-2. [Student-at-large Harmony Ordaz left the meeting prior to the vote.]

Members requested another meeting next week to discuss deferred items.

IV. Old Business – None.

V. Announcements – None.

VI. Adjournment – Jared adjourned the meeting at 2:03 pm.