

MINUTES OF THE
HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1998, 2:00 P.M.
Room 223, State Capitol Building

Members Present: Sen. David Steele, Committee Co-Chair
Rep. Afton Bradshaw, Committee Co-Chair
Sen. Lyle Hillyard
Sen. Nathan Tanner
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen
Rep. Mary Carlson
Rep. Orville D. Carnahan
Rep. Margaret Dayton
Rep. Patricia B. Larson
Rep. Swen Nielsen
Rep. Carl. R. Saunders

Members Absent: Sen. George Mantes
Members Excused: Rep. Martin R. Stephens

Staff Present: Boyd A. Garriott, Senior Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Kevin Walthers, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Rolayne Day, Secretary

Others Present: President Frank Budd, SLCC
President Kerry Romesberg, UVSC
Dean Elwood Zaugg, SLCC
Dean Michael Homer, SLCC
Chalmers Gail Norris, USHE
Angela Romero, UU Student
Dottie Alto, UU Graduate Student
Bryce Castillon, USU Student
Commissioner Cecelia Foxley
Regent Pamela Atkinson

List of Others Present on File:

Committee Co-Chair Steele called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

1. Salt Lake Community College Presentation—Analyst Kevin Walthers discussed recommendation for Salt Lake Community College including enrollment growth for 125 FTE at \$139,400, one-time funding of \$116,300 for technology, and funding for as many mandated costs as possible within the funding allotment. They also have identified dedicated credits to fund new O & M necessary for expansion of the South City Campus.

Dr. Brad Winn, GOPB, said the Governor recommends funding new O & M at \$17,900, the standard mandates at \$74,400, full ADA and enrollment funding, and the technology requests at \$378,000. He also recommends funding for both the ATE and non-ATE faculty with additional one-time funding for institutional technology equipment.

President Frank Budd introduced those present in support of SLCC. There is a rigorous tenure process at SLCC. In addition, each faculty member is evaluated by the division chair and dean once a year. Non-tenured faculty are evaluated by students once a year with tenured faculty evaluated every three years. There is also a very rigorous hiring process so they can employ people committed to teaching. Applicants go through several interviews, a live teaching demonstration, an extensive background check, and a final interview by President Budd. SLCC has been

working very hard on employee diversity. There has been a 325 person net personnel increase since 1990 when President Budd started; 25% of new employees are minorities.

Extensive follow-up surveys help SLCC determine what they are doing well and where they need to improve. FTE enrollment has increased 61% since 1991 while non-credit enrollment has increased 223% in the same time period. There were 3,670 unduplicated concurrent enrollment students in the 1996-1997 school year from 25 high schools. Fall distance education enrollments were 563 FTE. Faculty spend an average of 17 hours per week in the classroom. SLCC is the State leader with the Utah Small Business Center serving over 5,000 companies.

President Budd understands that the analysts had limited resources and expressed appreciation for efforts to help their base budget adjustments. Although enrollment seems to have leveled somewhat, SLCC is still growing. The slow down is attributed to the low unemployment rate and that some students have said it is just too hard to get to school with the roads. Because technology demands are soaring, there is a need for additional staff and technicians.

Institutional priorities include a request for 19 full-time faculty. There are currently 312 full-time faculty and over 800 adjunct faculty making a serious management problem. They are having a hard time finding qualified part-time faculty and have actually canceled classes with 20 to 25 students rather than hire an unqualified person to teach the class.

Sen. Steele asked about the 50% tuition reduction for apprentice students. President Budd said the agreement with trade organizations and unions was made many years ago to meet the heavy demand and to serve the school's vocational mission. The trade organizations have helped the college with equipment and apprentice positions and have then hired the graduates. Dean Elwood Zaugg said all apprentice programs earn college credit but may not transfer to a four-year school. President Budd said associate of applied science degrees are not usually designed to transfer because they are geared to a specialized skill.

Sen. Steele asked if it is hard for the school to hire qualified people in the technology areas because they can make more money in the private sector. President Budd said they rarely hire someone who hasn't worked in the industry and they have not had a problem hiring qualified people who want to teach.

Sen. Tanner suggested that students have a printed document telling them which courses transfer for their major and which do not. President Budd said it is an area they are trying to improve on.

MOTION: Rep. Carnahan moved to approve minutes of the January 30, 1998, and February 2, 1998, meetings.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Utah Valley State College Presentation—Mr. Walthers said UVSC is growing rapidly. The analysts did their best but were not able to fund all the requests. Dr. Winn said the Governor funded most of the standard mandated costs. They did not, however, cover the risk management shortfall for last year but did include it for this year and on. He funded 44% of the ADA request and half of the hazardous waste. Enrollment was fully funded as well as ATE technology, the institutional computer hardware/software request and part of the Higher Education Learning Partners and Dental Hygiene requests.

President Kerry Romesberg said UVSC is a unique institution as a state college with two tiers of instruction. Students internally transfer from the comprehensive community college level to the upper levels for BS degrees. He discussed enrollment projections and how much Utah Valley needs additional degrees that can be provided by UVSC. Most of those wanting to further their education cannot afford to move to areas where four-year institutions exist because of family size and work commitments. Eighty-nine percent of UVSC's students work with 42.1% working over 20 hours per week. There are 300 people on the waiting list for 30 slots in the teacher education degree and 1,000 applications were picked up for 12 slots in the Dental Hygiene degree.

Co-Chair Bradshaw assumed the Committee chair.

Rep. Allen expressed concern that cyclical job markets keep up with the number of people graduating in various areas. President Romesberg said everyone that wants a degree does not want to use it immediately. He noted that they serve 17,000 non-credit students in their Mountainlands ATC that are not counted as FTE. UVSC is not requesting additional funding for the 19 new BS degrees they are requesting; they will be funded with growth money. He noted that the Dental Hygiene program is more expensive because it requires more faculty per students.

The faculty teaching load is 15 hours per week. There is no salary difference between those that teach at the community college level and upper division courses.

3. Financial Aid—Analyst Boyd Garriott said their recommendation is for \$33,000 to maintain current levels of student financial aid support. They tried to get some additional resources but were unsuccessful. He expressed hope that Sen. McAllister's bill to fund UCOPE would pass the Legislature. As tuition goes up, more students are finding it necessary to seek funding.

Co-Chair Steele assumed the committee chair.

Dr. Winn said the Governor recommends funding \$299,000 of the Regents' request but doesn't recommend funding UCOPE or the educationally disadvantaged.

Chalmers Gail Norris, USHE, said every year the Committee supports the financial aid requests philosophically, but they hope actual financial support will be given this year as well. He expressed appreciation to the analysts and the Governor for helping as much as they could, but the state has not kept pace with the growth need. Some people are having to drop out of school and we need to try to diminish that.

4. Educationally Disadvantaged—Students Angela Romero (UU), Dottie Alto (UU), and Bryce Castillon (USU) said the Educationally Disadvantaged funds have helped them get their education and fulfill their dreams when they would not have been able to do it on their own.

Commissioner Foxley said financial aid programs are very important for students in Utah because of large families where often multiple family members are attending institutions of higher education. Regent Pamela Atkinson said education is a right for everyone and the Legislature should take a lead to form partnerships with businesses to help students.

Mr. Norris discussed the financial aid request including UCOPE, Educationally Disadvantaged, and the College Savings Plan. The request includes funding to match/replace federal funds at \$299,000. Federal grant money is diminishing leaving many graduating students with large loans. Sometimes their earning potential allows them to repay the loads in a timely manner, but often it does not. Utah has a high number of older students who are responsible for themselves and do not qualify for federal financial aid.

Mr. Norris said the Utah Education Savings Plan would fit nicely with Regent Atkinson's idea because anyone could contribute to the fund. Sen. Hillyard asked how the federal credit for tuition will impact higher education. Mr. Norris said it will marginally impact higher education enrollments because the student must pay the money before they get any back.

Sen. Steele distributed the Capital Facilities list for higher education for the Committee to review.

Committee Co-Chair Steele adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Rolayne Day, Secretary.

Rep. Afton Bradshaw, Committee Co-Chair