

## MINUTES OF BUDGET COMMITTEE OF FACULTY SENATE

27 August 2012

Attending: Shannon Alexander, Jim Allen, Seyed Allameh, Gary Clayton (chair), Steve Crites, Jane Green, Gary Hackbarth, Lois Hamill, Lisa Holden, Yi Hu, Doug Krull, Thomas Lambert, Mark Leeman, Robert Lilly, Louise Niemer, Frank Restesan

Guests: Alar Lipping, President of the Faculty Senate

Absent: Jan Anderson, Bethany Bowling, Jim Bradtmueller, Tobias Brauer, Gary Eippert, Kebede Gemene, Rich Gilson, Kajsa Larson, John Metz

Gary opened the meeting at approximately 3:15.

A budget meeting previously scheduled for Thursday, November 29 should actually be Monday, November 26.

Gary noted that, as agreed last year, it will be important to complete the budget priorities survey earlier in the year (during the Fall semester) so that input is available for budget decisions.

Alar addressed the budget committee and noted that the administration does consider faculty budget priorities (e.g., increased IT support). Moreover, it's clear that NKU has made progress with regard to faculty salaries in the last 20 years.

However, Alar suggested that the budget committee might want to evaluate NKU salaries in the last few years. In addition, he suggested that overall CUPA standards might not be the most appropriate criterion and that an alternative possibility would be to compare to benchmark institutions. Moreover, he noted that overall means for budget priorities do not necessarily reveal important issues (e.g., faculty who have been at NKU for many years tend to suffer from salary compression) and that such issues should be considered.

Alar pointed out that travel funds are decentralized, which might create inequity between departments or colleges.

Alar suggested that a narrative should accompany the budget priority data to interpret the information and emphasize important aspects.

Gary proposed that a goal for the next budget committee meeting will be to evaluate the budget priority survey questions.

Gary asked budget committee members to email him prior to the next meeting if they would like to serve on a particular budget subcommittee.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:02.