

B. USG STAFF COUNCIL MEETING

Jay Knappe added a recap of the USG Staff Council meeting held on CSU campus June 26. Jay reported that twenty folks from across the University Systems of Georgia visited our campus and got to see our new student recreation center and met in Davidson. They had a good meeting and everyone enjoyed visiting our campus. Jay ask Nicole Lee to update council on the business end and she reported that we are still moving forward with the endorsement request to have USG Staff Council recognized by the Board of Regents. We have 17 USG institutions of the 30-35 participating. We have assigned the executive committee to approach the BOR officers for contracts to start the process of what to do now to move forward to have our bylaws and be officially recognized by the Board of Regents. Recognition of USG Staff Council by the Board of Regents will give each Staff Council at each USG Institution more weight when it comes to decisions being made at the college level.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. IP POLICY REVIEW

David Mitchell who is the Director of Enterprise Development with the VPBF office at CSU and Kyle Christensen with the Social Research Center at CSU were invited to this meeting to answer any questions that staff council might have concerning the CSU Intellectual Property (IP) Policy Draft which has already been presented to the Faculty Senate and the Dean's Council for feedback and now is being presented for Staff Council feedback. After this policy is presented to Staff Council the final step will be to present this to the president's administration for final approval. The IP Committee is an institutional committee which means it is appointed by the president and the provost. This committee is put together for the purpose of revising CSU's institutional policy bringing it more up to date with what other institutions are doing. This committee started last fall as a group to put together this updated IP Policy and David said this was moving along at a nice pace and hopes to get this policy started by next fall. David gave a page by page review of this policy and noted suggested amendments by Laurie Jones changing the language under Section 5 titled *Determination of Rights and Equities in Intellectual Property* located under Section B titled *University-Assigned Efforts* and under Section 6 titled - *Distribution of Income*. It was also suggested that this policy be made available on the internet for comments and also be posted in the back of faculty, staff and student employee handbooks with a reference link directing anyone interested to the entire policy online. A first and second motion was opened to approve these sections with suggested amendments by Staff Council to this policy and all were in favor to accept the policy. Jay told David Mitchell that he had the Staff Council's full endorsement of this policy with suggested amendments.

B. UPDATE FROM PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON FY 2012 BUDGET

Jay Knappe wanted to give an update from the SC Chair's position of being on the President's Council and from the SC Chair's position of also being on the Budget Advisory Committee. The big topic here has been the 2012 FY budget that was just submitted. Jay reported that 2012 we are looking at \$30.6 million coming in from state allocated funds that is down \$3.5 million well over 10% from last year and 50.10% this year added on to the additional percents from last year puts us over 32% in reduction of state allocation funds in the last three years. This is to give you an idea of what challenges the administration has had to deal with over the last three years. The state has been changing the way we can use some of the funds so there is a huge increase in the 1060 (technology account fee code) fund and the way some of these fees can be used that has changed over the last year. \$6.6 million is what they are projecting. Tuition for this year is projected at 34.4 million and right now they are looking at a \$3 million dollar shortfall for next year that they are challenged with. As of now there is not talk of layoffs. Jay reported that with all this being said, we are still in trying times. The reports they are getting from the state is that revenue from tax collections are beginning to be on the positive side for the last several months but there is not enough increase to start thinking positive yet.

The budget is basically split 60% to the academic department side and 40% to all other departments. It has been in the last few years where the cuts have been made has been on the 40% side that consist more of the staff side. Tom Helton (VPBF) is proposing to talk to the academic departments asking them to pick up some of the brunt on their side this time. The last few years the staff and administrative departments have taken the brunt of the cuts and done their part to eliminate the cuts on the academic side but this year he is looking at cuts on the academic side and asking academic administration to help on their part and this will be a challenge. Jays also went on to say that they are not talking about layoffs right now at this point but new hires will be kept open for what is considered "critical positions" only. Laurie Jones also commented clarifying that there is no such thing as a "hiring freeze" because there are some positions that have to be filled. Laurie said that it was more of a "hiring watch" because they are being very careful in determining which positions will be filled. Jay added that if the position can be fully justified and explained then they are getting approved. Jay also explained that part of the source of funding for hiring support staff for what is considered "critical positions" comes directly from student lab fees, classroom fees and technology fees collected from the 1060 funds. Proposals to fill a position has to be very documented to justifying why the position is needed. The way fees can be used is a lot more at the discretion of the department head's now.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. HR BENEFITS SESSIONS

Laurie Jones announced that Human Resources is having a “Get to Know Your Benefits” sessions for CSU staff on June 7, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and on June 22, 2011 from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. at the Schuster Student Success Center, Room 130. These sessions will focus on doctor plans and how to use benefits throughout the year.

B. COLUMBUS STATE CREATES 125 STUDY ABROAD GRANTS FOR STUDENTS

Christine Murphey announced that in Columbus, GA – Building on a record enrollment in study abroad programs over the last two years, Columbus State University is predicting even more growth with the creation of 125 new grants to help students pay for study abroad courses. The grants will vary from \$1,000 to \$1,750 – depending on the length of the study abroad program – and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis to just about any student. The new Study Abroad Grant is now available for eligible staff for these funds. Staff is not required to take a full-time course load, but must be **degree-seeking** to be eligible to apply for the new Study Abroad Grant. Any staff that wishes to study abroad next spring, for example, will need to apply this fall. To follow are the application periods –

Spring Programs: September 15 – November 10
Maymester Programs: November 11 – February 1
Summer & Fall Programs: February 2 – March 15

For more information visit: <http://cie.colstate.edu/studyabroadmain.asp>

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Dana McGlon