

Budget Committee Year-end report FY 18-19

Budget Committee members:

Elena Samuels, Chair

Christopher Shultz, staff

Jim Berg, staff

Anna Krupitskiy, staff

Joel Barker, faculty

Ralph Buxton, staff

Sekou Koulibaly, student

The Committee met on the following dates:

September 7, 2018

February 19, 2019

The majority of the Committee members were not familiar with the budget process at the college and at the meetings we discussed various issues related to the college budget management. The following topics were included in the agendas of the meetings:

- Community colleges budget allocation methodology;
- The importance of meeting the tuition revenue target and impact of revenue on the operating budget;
- Principles of managing the Technology Fee budget and expenditures;
- The purpose of various lump sum allocations;
- The status of OTPS spending by divisions and departments;
- Impact of students enrollment trends on the college's budget allocation and tuition revenue;
- Faculty and staff hiring trends.

At its fall 2018 meeting the Committee discussed the fiscal year budget allocation and financial plan. In fiscal year 2018-19 NYS aid per FTE increased by \$100 and NYC support increase provided additional funding for ASAP, CUNY Math Start and CUNY Tutor Corps. Tuition revenue was projected to be lower than in the prior year due to anticipated continuing enrollment decline.

Based on allocated budget the college budget department prepared the balanced Financial Plan. Financial Plan demonstrates how the combined financial resources comprised of tax levy, technology fees, philanthropy contributions and miscellaneous revenue will be used to meet the needs for anticipated mandatory and discretionary expenses to include the personnel services, goods, rentals and services, and tied to the activities outlined in the Strategic plan: Excellence in Teaching, Research and Learning, Student Success and Retention, Organizational Effectiveness and Institutional Accountability.

The spring 2019 meeting was devoted to the discussion about the Mid-Year Financial Report and the status of departmental OTPS expenditures.

Overall, from the budget standpoint FY18-19 was successful, as all planned initiatives were sufficiently funded.

Based on the discussions at the Budget Committee meetings AVP for Finance delivered the reports at the College Council meetings on September 26, 2018 and on February 27, 2019.

Goals and challenges for Next Year's Committee:

University Budget Department analyzed the NYS and preliminary NYC budgets for FY 2020. Continuing community college enrollment declines resulted in an overall \$14.5Mil or 2% reduction in community colleges funding.

The share of BMCC in this budget reduction would be approximately \$3Mil. In addition to this reduction, we need to consider the projected annual increase in cost of full time personnel services, new lease obligations for the 2nd and 3rd floors at Murray Street and cost of faculty workload reduction. Based on the preliminary budget analysis in FY2020 the college would have substantially reduce its OTPS spending.

Next Year's Committee should continue the oversight over the financial planning process in the college to ensure that its transparency and connection to the strategic targets and goals. The review and analysis of the outcome of assessment process and priorities set by the college community should be taken in consideration in developing the budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Elena Samuels