

MINUTES OF THE SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
December 3, 2014, 3.00 - 5.00 PM
Manners Room (RCB)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Torbert (Guest), Francis, Venet, Duhaime, Rehder, Gallagher, Sevcik, Swygart-Hobaugh, Butler, Topalli, Dadzie, Greene, Sehat, and Thachenkary (Recorder)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

Special Guest, Mr. Edgar Torbert, entertained the Committee with an excellent narrative on the origin and history of FACP, the Fiscal Advisory Committee to the President. Our previous President Carl Patton started FACP and it used to be chaired by then-Provost Ron Henry. This tradition continues. Provost Palm chairs FACP today. The objective of FACP is to bring a small group of university representatives together from the University Administration, the Senate, its Executive Committee, the Deans' Council, Staff Council, and the SGA, to deliberate on the details of specific items of the university's budget. FACP holds open meetings and over the years the "Visitors' Gallery" has expanded in size and scope. In contrast to FACP, the Senate Budget Committee, with its larger and broader representation from our university community, deals with macro-level policy matters and budget priorities. It generally does not get involved in the minutiae of university budget management. Mr. Torbert's presentation included humorous references to many of our past university colleagues and administrators. The Committee expressed its appreciation to Mr. Torbert with a round of applause.

Next, Rehder spoke for his Sub-Committee on Graduate Student Fees. After an extended discussion, the Sub-Committee was asked to update its analysis and include a worst-case estimate of about \$750,000 (AY) as the cost to the University for implementing the proposed tuition waiver package. The sub-Committee was to prepare an "Addendum" to their previously submitted report clarifying new details in the graduate student enrollment data obtained directly from some of the Colleges. Upon completion, this addendum would be circulated by e-mail to the full Committee for its approval.

The Chair informed the Committee that he had taken the liberty of inviting our colleague and former Budget Chair, Dr. Hugh Hudson, Jr., to attend today's meeting so all could thank him in person for his many years of service to our Senate, this Committee, and the University in general. Dr. Hudson could not attend today's meeting. In his absence, the Committee still did express its gratitude to Dr. Hudson with a round of applause. Further discussion centered on how to make this recognition a more formal one. It was proposed that the Chair request the Senate to pass a "Commendation" honoring Dr. Hudson at its next meeting in January 2015.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4.25 PM.