

Financial Planning Committee Meeting Summary

Date: October 3, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Chair: Steven Karpowicz

Secretary: Siri GuruNam Khalsa

Members- Present: Elizabeth Valenzuela, Roxanne Gonzales-Walker

Members-Absent: Gerardo Moreira, Rey Martinez, Stephanie Gonzales (Ex-officio member)

Key Topics Discussed

Committee Responsibilities Review

- Reviewed duties outlined in the faculty handbook.
- Noted several responsibilities not consistently fulfilled in past years.
- Emphasized need for increased faculty involvement in budgetary decisions.

Election of Officers

- Steven Karpowicz nominated and unanimously approved for a third term as Chair.
- Siri Khalsa nominated and unanimously approved for a third term as Secretary
- Siri to explore AI tools for minute preparation.

Meeting Schedule

- Proposed dates: November 7 and December 5, 2025.
- Steven to confirm availability with absent members.

Budget Committee Updates

- Concerns raised about proposed budget cuts to academics.
- Discussion on budget model based on departmental income/enrollment.
- Historical context and equitable funding model proposal was suggested.

Registrar's Office Concerns

- Noted issues of understaffing and low morale.
- Noted were multiple key vacancies and lack of communication.
- Suggested, using salary savings from the 3 vacant positions, 2 of which had an increase in pay during FY: 2024-2025, to support overburdened staff.
- Reports of students unable to receive the information they need to complete their application and register for courses.
- Reports of some students deciding to check out other schools.

Minimum Enrollment Policy

- Revisited previous work on enrollment thresholds.

- Emphasized fairness and flexibility in applying standards.
- Steven agreed to refine and submit report to Faculty Senate.

Grant Funding Impact

- Limited impact reported; Watershed Institute grant at risk.
- Concerns about future DEI-related grants.

Action Items

Steven Karpowicz:

- Confirm future meeting dates with absent members.
- Send out minimum enrollment report for review.
- Raise Registrar staffing concerns at Faculty Senate and Budget Committee meetings.
- Invite VPFA and VPAA to future meetings.

Siri GuruNam Khalsa:

- Explore AI-assisted minute preparation.