

President's Council

Meeting Notes

November 8, 2016

Present: K. MacDonald, K. Wamsley, B. Hale, K. Brebner, T. Hynes, T. Buksaitis, L. Lawrence., M. Kyte, J. MacDonald, K. Wamsley, P. Hauf, A. Beckett, J. Webber, J. Orr, R. Isnor, K. Bell

1. The agenda was approved.
2. The minutes of October 11, 2016 were approved.
3. Business arising - *none*
4. Presidents' Report
 - a) There is a CONSUP meeting this week regarding accessibility legislation.
 - b) The Maple League Gala will take place in Toronto this week.
 - c) StFX is part of Atlantic wide initiative, supported by an MOU between 12 universities and Atlantic Congress of First Nation Chiefs, the MOU will be renewed this week in alignment with Senator Sinclair's visit to campus.
 - d) The Board of Governor's focus for 2017/2018 will be on having a balanced budget.
5. Capital Projects

There are three bids in progress for the Mulrone project and in February the submissions will be reviewed. Contracts will be awarded in March. Discussion of changes to timetables and ongoing communications will continue and the focus will be on the service needs of the students.
6. Deveau Scholarship Update

PC received an update on the award program, continual tracking and assessing progress is needed to support those most in need, to ensure student success and to track the success of the scholarship over time.
7. Approval of International Travel and Safety Policy

The purpose of this new policy is to mitigate student travel risks. A parallel policy for StFX employees will be developed. The process for approving travel is now place and outlined in this policy. The focus is on a travel registry and not on the activities in a location, how they travel and supervision or contingency plans. A handbook for students and safety checklist will be developed. PC reviewed revisions to the draft policy and discussed travel insurance requirements. PC approved the policy. It is the expectation of PC that StFX continue to refine the in-country travel protocol and that this protocol come back to PC for further review.

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8. Strat Plan Update

The executive has drafted the 2017-2018 priorities framework. This document will be shared with PC prior to the next meeting. The Leadership Council will have the opportunity to discuss this annual plan at their meeting in December.

9. Financial Projections

For the current year, the budget forecasted a \$750,000 deficit. The actual is now predicted to have an additional deficit of one million or million and a half, which is about one percent of the total budget. This increased in deficit is based on two factors: 1. Enrolment was built into the budget based on positive first year enrolment but it was actually flat 2. Residence occupancy was budgeted based on 90-92% occupancy but the actual is 86% for a negative impact of about \$700,000. The multiyear impact of not achieving targets will have to be addressed as it is part of a four-year cycle. The external funding for research is not included in the financial report but the same issues of declining surplus applies to this area. StFX has a responsibility to find the balance between finance issues and the progress in motion to put the university on more solid footing. The budget for 2017/2018 will be balanced

Respectfully submitted,

L. Lawrence