Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Budget Committee  
Hofstra University Senate  
Friday, April 24, 2020

Present: Burnett, Ghorayeb, Berliner, Ploran, Lee, Rigel, Tarson, Sikorski, Apollo, Wallace, Ciani, Fredrich, Barkwill, Hennessy, Huang, Hoovert

Meeting began at 12:50pm.

Provost Berliner’s Report

- Easy transition to online, expresses thanks faculty for making it easy
- Lost revenue
  - Conferences
  - Housing
  - Food services
- Summer
  - All online, with a few exceptions
  - Student response
    - Some displeased with online format (would prefer in-person)
    - Some might come in summer, but no residence halls will be available
      - Likely another decline for our overall budget
  - Camps
    - Goal is to run the camps
    - Can camps work?
      - Hard to see this working well at this point with social distancing guidelines
- Fall
  - Will we return in person?
    - Unclear at present, without guidelines from the state
    - Expect to take a hit in enrollment anyway
      - June 1 is the new soft deadline for commitments
      - Now also acceptable to recruit past June 1, however
  - Facilities
    - Dorms have multiple beds, communal bathrooms
    - Only offering single room
      - Would cut population in half
        - Housing revenue is about $40 million a year
          - Would be cut in half at least
          - If not in person, expected drop would be even larger

V.P. Catherine Hennessy’s Report

- First deficit this year in 20 years
  - Actively trying to reduce expenses
- Real Concern is about Next Year
  o Will families pay in a recession?
  o State/local governments also have a say
  o 10-20 percent in revenue decline modeled/expected
    - Could be substantially more
  o Deficits almost certain next year
  o Need to cut, but cuts cannot harm our future

Provost Berliner:
- Discount rates of peers are going up
- LI students may opt for Hofstra since they can commute
- But many may opt for cheaper options locally

Hennessy
- ½ of students incoming are out of state, probably not going to be able to overcome that deficit locally
- Grant from CARES act
  o Good portion goes to students
  o 3 million goes to Hofstra directly
    - Not substantial enough to make up for losses
    - For example, we lost ~$12 million in Spring 2020
- Deficit this year
  o Between $15-30 million, depending on variables, ending in August

Discussion of Financial Concerns
- Increased discounting means we need to change cost structure
- Online in Summer
  o Courses are often Distance Learning
- Delayed Opening?
  o No national survey on what students want
  o Nobody knows when the second wave will come (if it does)
- Ending Semester at Thanksgiving?
  o Last week/finals online
- Classes Might have Significant Amount of Material Online even if Meeting in Person
  o Might make it easier to transition online if that happens
  o “Flipped Classroom Model”
  o Perhaps lecture online, discussion only in person
- Risk Factors
  o Even if we return, students, faculty and staff will have varying level of risk factors for COVID-19
  o Will need a flexible model for all stakeholders
- Masks
  o Everyone will have to wear masks
- Markets for Loans
  - Not great in this environment
  - Liquidity and bridge loans under consideration, if needed

No new business was brought up.

Motion to adjourn, seconded and approved. The meeting concluded at 2:00pm.