

Council of Chairs
May 8, 2013

Present: Sandy Huguenin, David Kendall, Bryan Hoyt, Rachel Tighe, John Adrian, Jeff Cantrell, Sim Ewing, Amelia Harris, Mark Clark (for Tom Costa), Alex Edwards, Suzanna Adams-Ramsey, Robin Benke

Absent: Margie Tucker, Cathie Collins

Sim Ewing met with the Council of Chairs to discuss the academic budget for fiscal year 2014. The Senior Staff met recently to discuss requests and justifications, and to set budget priorities. Increases were given to budgets that had been under-funded in the past:

- adjunct
- faculty recruiting
- faculty advertising (for tenure-track positions)
- general faculty reserve line

There are three classifications of employees: teaching and research faculty, university staff (includes administrative and professional faculty), and classified staff. University staff was a creation of restructuring a few years ago. There does not appear to be specific General Assembly appropriation for salary increases for this classification, and will be covered from the College's general fund. Teaching and research faculty will receive a 3 percent increase; classified staff 2 percent along with a \$65 per year compression payment for those with over five years of state service up to 30 years; and university staff 3 percent. Teaching and research faculty will also receive a merit increase agreed to in FY13: \$150,000 over a two-year period.

A Student Cultural Enhancement Fund was created, and funding added for students to attend undergraduate research conferences. Most academic departments received funds for equipment and supplies.

A new position was created in the registrar's office and will be partially funded through transcript fees. A new university staff position was provided for in the Healthy Appalachia Initiative to be split funded with the University. Funding is provided to the Tutor Connection for the utilization of SmartThinking along with a wage position.

An additional \$48,500 was provided to a central faculty travel budget housed in the provost's office. Asked if there is a limit on faculty travel, the provost responded that each request is different. Preference is given to faculty who will present at the conference, but it was agreed that it is important for faculty to keep current in their field and make contacts helpful in filling positions.

Mr. Ewing mentioned that Shannon Blevins, in the office of Economic Development, would like to develop a database of faculty willing to serve as consultants with businesses, and to develop summer internships.