University Budget Development Committee

Transparency Guidelines

As the UBDC moves to fulfill its charge we should exemplify transparency on several fronts. Specifically, the UBDC should actively disseminate information about its deliberations; UBDC members should conduct themselves in transparent manners in and out of session; and the budget model the UBDC supports should be functionally transparent. Here are some specifics for each of the three categories:

**Transparent UBDC Process:**

1) Use UBDC website to promptly disseminate UBDC information.
2) Listen to and communicate with governance groups and other stakeholders.
3) Offer budget model listening sessions and update forums.
4) Invite questions.
5) Embrace an all-university mentality.
6) Be clear about the UBDC purview (university-to-college/unit level).
7) Be clear that strategic realignment is outside the UBDC’s purview.

**Transparent Conduct:**

1) Avoid creating UBDC gossip.
2) Respectfully correct misconceptions about the UBDC.
3) Avoid using acronyms, to prevent confusion.
4) Maintain an open mind to all points of view.
5) Listen for concerns around campus and bring them back to the UBDC.

**Transparent Budget Model:**

1) Logical, reasonable people should be able to see into and understand the inner workings of the UBDC-sanctioned budget model.
2) The time needed to understand the budget model should be modest.
3) Historic patterns of allocations should be exposed and evaluated.
4) Cross subsidies should be made visible.
5) All funding decisions should be explicable to a logical and reasonable listener.
6) Occam’s razor should be applied when logically feasible.
7) Show how economics and academics are balanced in the UBDC-sanctioned model.