**AGENDA & MINUTES**

CU Denver Downtown Campus Faculty Assembly’s

**Budget Priorities Committee (BPC) Meeting**

September 3, 2024

10:00 am – 11:30 am

BPC Attendees: Sarah Fields (Chair, CLAS), Kelly McCusker (Secretary, Auraria Library), Christine Martell (SPA), David Tracer (CLAS), Julien Langou (CLAS), Ann Komara (CAP)

Absent: Tony Cox (Business), Julia Mahfouz (SEHD), Miloje Radenkovic (CEDC), TBD (CAM)

Guests: Leigh Ann Rutherford (Administrator Coordinator), Michael Kocet (Vice Chancellor for Graduate Education), Sasha Breger (Faculty Assembly Chair), Manuel Garza (Staff Council Rep)

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Graduate funding, Associate Vice Chancellor for Graduate Education, Michael Kocet
   1. Been here about 1.5 years, office of 1
   2. Previously graduate funding was not equitable, some programs received no funding, some received over $100,000.
   3. Chancellor scholarship program was for 5 years. Only program for individual level funding.
   4. The scholarship program did not go away because the Graduate School went away.
   5. Current funding: $5,000 one year award for master students, $7,000 one year award for PhD students.
   6. Wanted to support as many students as possible and spread out the money more to support as many areas as possible.
   7. Has received many communications about supporting students that may need to leave university if funding is not received, all those students have received funding so they can continue at the university.
   8. Doctoral programs were able to receive multiyear funding.
   9. Extra funding for current students so we wouldn’t lose them.
   10. Meeting with doctoral program director to determine their needs.
   11. Anschutz has about $900M of grants, CU Denver has about $30M grants.
   12. Would like to create a graduate scholarship awards committee with reps from all schools / colleges and financial aid.
   13. $455,000 ongoing budget for scholarships
   14. BPC concerns:
       1. centralizing funding and graduate education.
       2. decisions made by graduate education make decisions slower.
       3. scholarship awards committee would be additional work for colleges / schools.
       4. PhD students provide a lot of support to master’s and undergraduate students and people don’t feel as if PhD programs have support.
       5. schools and colleges are funded at different levels – depends on the program and level, there will always be inequity.
       6. Master’s programs want funding, but don’t want funding stripped away from PhD programs.
       7. How will tuition remission be funded?
       8. small scholarships don’t seem to help with recruitment or retainment. Students like programs that are fully funded or that are convenient.
       9. concerns about using reserves for funding grad programs.
       10. proposal for centralized funding should have gone to BPC, FA, and the affected programs for input.
   15. Funds transferred directly from the graduate education speedtype to student account right after census.
   16. Has heard about frustrations about health insurance for graduate students. Meeting with Boulder to discuss how they provide access.
   17. The Provost told FA officers last week that he's trying to "convince the Cabinet" to use the $5 million we have in reserve, owing to enrollments that were better than expected, to fund graduate education.
3. Select vice chair of committee
   1. Contact Sarah Fields via email if you are interested.
4. Budget Model Revision Steering Committee updates (how will our reps communicate as move forward?)
   1. Kelly and Julien will keep people updated about conversations. Sarah and David will fill in if neither of us can make it.