**Planning and Finance Committee Minutes**

**February 17, 2016**

*Call to Order: 5:35 P.M.*

*Roll:*

 Absent Committee Members: Smitley, Joyce, Soeldner

 Present Committee Members: Alcorn, Beggs, Brauer, Browder, Ellerton, Feiz,

Goldstein, Jawahar, Kalter, Lin, Marx, Miller-Schuster, Schaab, Smitley, Soeldner,

Winger

*Approval of the minutes from February 3rd*

*Subcommittee Reports:*

 The Subcommittee for Sustainability met to review policy, but didn’t see the need for

substantial changes due to the strategic nature of the policy. The committee will meet

again.

 The Subcommittee for Fundraising has not met.

*Senate Democrats Report on Executive Compensation:*

 The report is an attack by the Illinois General Assembly to lower support for higher

education.

 The report singles out administrative bloat as a cause of rising costs of higher education.

However, it is unclear what is driving this administrative expansion. As a mechanism for

strategic planning for the university, it seems we have some responsibility to analyze

these administrative expenses and assess the validity of the General Assembly’s

accusations.

 Vice-President Alt’s presentation touched on what is done with the money we receive

from the state, as well as how much we spend on unfunded state mandates.

 Vice-President Alt intended to be here this week, but was unable to be present. He will

attend next week to discuss the particulars.

 The report appeared to be halfway researched. Many facts seemed cherry-picked to cast

higher education in a negative light.

 The narrative created by the report is of high administrative salaries driving up tuition

costs, but we really need to investigate where the money is coming from and going to so

we can intelligibly respond to the report.

 The committee split into groups to brainstorm for the Institutional Priorities Report.

*Adjournment: 7:00P.M.*