

## Highlights from the May 29<sup>th</sup> SBAC Meeting:

### 1. Suggestions from SBAC Input form

SBAC reviewed the compiled suggestions on increasing revenue and decreasing expenses from the SBAC input form. The SBAC members thank you for your thoughtful suggestions. Each suggestion has been considered and classified in the following categories:

- Consider now
- Currently an ongoing process at university
- Assess after June 11, 2013

This document has been posted on the SBAC site and will be updated frequently. All of your suggestions are appreciated. Some of the suggestions that require further elaboration are covered below.

### 2. Suggestions to reduce travel expense

- The Board policy requires travel in economy class. First class travel is allowed only if medically required.
- The reimbursement amount for mileage is set at the government rate and covers fuel and wear and tear.

### 3. Suggestion to reduce operating expenses equally across all faculties.

The Academic VP's budgeted expense for all faculties and Student Services is \$4.2 million. A frequent suggestion is to make across the board cuts. At the May 23<sup>rd</sup> SBAC meeting, the Deans were asked if it would be possible to reduce their operating expenses in each of their departments. The consensus was that operating cuts have been made previously and operating budgets are quite lean. SBAC does not support across the board cuts since they do not involve consultation.

SBAC has asked the Deans to solicit their departments for permanent voluntary reductions to operating expenses and section allocations.

### 4. Challenges in Information Technology (IT)

IT is faced with many challenges which cannot be solved in the short term. The challenges include the following:

- human resources issues related to salaries, productivity; and unfilled positions;
- a complex environment with more than 2,500 pieces of software ; and
- a rapidly changing IT landscape.

A new Senate committee on technology was established in February 2013 and will be discussing changes to the overall IT strategy. An additional unknown that may affect IT is the provincial initiative ([Administrative Service Delivery](#)) to consolidate IT (and other) functions throughout the province.

SBAC will review the budget increases to IT from reallocation and those from real budget increases.

### Next Steps

- Continue fact gathering
- Continue categorizing current options, future options, and general recommendations

### Meetings Scheduled

Friday, May 31 - 10 am

Tuesday, June 4 - 12pm

Wednesday, June 5- 2 pm

Friday, June 6 - 12 pm