Matthew C. called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm. He introduced himself and asked the committee to introduce themselves. He then explained his role and encouraged the student members to learn about the programs funded from the Student Services Fee in order to participate in the committee process.

Michael V. went over the committee’s mission and process guidelines, emphasizing that attendance is important, and reminding the student members that this is their committee. He encouraged them to reach out to their fellow students throughout the process to see what their opinions are about the programs and services being evaluated by the committee. He explained that the Student Services Fee is not expected to increase in the near future, meaning that revenue will remain flat while expenses continue to increase. Michael V. then provided a historical summary to better familiarize the members with the challenges past committees have faced, and summarized the recommendations that were developed by last year’s committee. A member asked to what extent previous recommendations were accepted by the Chancellor, and Michael responded that in the recent history of the committee, the Chancellor has accepted all the recommendations. Another member raised a concern over the Chancellor’s departure in March, and Michael V. and Jennifer assured the committee members that this transition would have no impact on the committee process.

Matthew T. gave an overview of the fund analysis. Matthew T. pointed out that as a result of budget actions taken in 2013-14, reserves were not projected to decrease as rapidly as previously thought. He warned that the numbers for the outer years are projections, and would need to be updated as better financial information is known. Based on a question, Matthew T. explained where reserves come from. Angela gave a brief explanation on how budgetary decisions made by previous state governors and legislatures regarding UC student fee increases have had an adverse impact on the fund’s current financial situation. Don then advised the committee to read last year’s Chancellor’s recommendation letter to gain a better understanding of the issues.

Lisa informed the committee members that they will be reviewing proposals from the Student Services Fee-fund units, and she explained the letter and the questions to which the units were asked to respond. She also suggested that the committee could decide to not require all the units to make presentations. Don commented that previous committee’s had required Student Health and Counseling to always present given that this program had the highest funding level of all the SSF-fund programs. Matthew C. then encouraged the committee to review the past proposals as a way to become oriented to the programs, and to come prepared to the next meeting with questions and recommendations about this year’s presentations process.
Jennifer updated the committee on the merging of the two student governments, GSA and ASUCSF. She stated that the two committees will now submit one joint proposal for 2014-15. She also mentioned that the SSFAC guidelines will need to be updated as a result of this merger. The goal of the merger is to have a unified student voice on campus. The request for the student referendum will be sent to UCOP on January 21, 2014.

Don closed the meeting by quizzing the students to see if they knew what was meant by “return to aid.” Michael V. then explained that it is Regents’ policy that a certain percentage of revenue from the various fees/tuition students pay is required to be allocated or “returned” for need-based, student financial aid. Don then encouraged the students to read the proposals from last year as well as the new proposals that would be e-mailed to the committee members in advance of the next meeting on January 28, 2014.

Voting: None

Adjournment: 6:45 pm