The meeting started at 5:38 PM, and Matthew C. motioned for prior meeting minute’s approval, and the committee agreed.

Matthew C. then introduced what he thought the process should be for the evening’s deliberations. He said the staff and ex officio members of the committee are here to listen to the students’ comments and suggestions about the units’ programs and services, and, if appropriate, formulate a plan. He then mentioned the committee needs to follow-up and discuss feedback from other students, as well as the pros and cons of this year’s committee process. Don, Matthew C., and Jennifer will also be discussing how to collect more independent utilization data on the units’ services.

A committee member expressed concern over committee member names being identified in the meeting minutes. Michael V. provided reasoning why he thought it is important for staff and ex-officio member names (and not student member names) to be identified in the minutes when responding to a member’s question or comments. Jennifer also committed that the minutes are not widely distributed, but are intended to be used only by the committee members.

**Fund Analysis:**

Matthew T. gave a short presentation on the units’ 2014-15 proposed budgets. He provided history on how the $25,000 reserve for equities and reclasses was established, and proposed that this “set aside” reserve be free-up in order to be used as this year’s committee seem appropriate. Matthew T. closed his presentation by informing the committee to focus on the nature of the services and how they align with the committee’s goals.

**Questions:**

*Is there a likelihood of a dramatic drop in reserves?* Matthew T. explained that the drop in reserves in 2012-13 was due to that year’s committee “feeling comfortable” awarding temporary allocations to various units at the expense of the reserve balance.

*Are cost increases likely to continue or will this trend line flatten out in the near future?* Matthew T. stated that the increases are not likely to be as high as in recent years due to the leveling off of the UCRP employer contributions. Michael V. added that salary and primarily health benefit cost increases will continue to impact the fund. Increased fee revenue is needed to offset these annual cost increases.

**Discussions & Recommendations:**

Matthew T. clarified that if the committee approved all existing recurring budgets as well as the new funding requests, the projected reserve balance would be $266,301, or 8% of total expenses.

**Synapse:**
The committee engaged in a lengthy discussion about Synapse, and whether the $202,613 budget was justifiable given the paper’s low readership. Some members felt the paper provided writing and publishing opportunities to a very small group of students, and others felt the quality and content of the articles have resulted in the paper not being read. A committee member suggested that Synapse could operate at a much lower cost by organizing it as a student-led RCO. Another member commented that without a professional editor managing the paper, students would not be able to devote enough time to getting the issues out, and Synapse “would die.” The discussion then centered on what the appropriate level of funding should be. A proposal was made that Synapse’s existing funding level be renewed in 2014-15 less a 5% reduction ($10,131), but that it be comprised of a combination of recurring ($50,000) and temporary ($142,482) funding for a new total of $192,482. This change is meant to express the committee’s desire to only allocate $50,000 in recurring funding to a student newspaper beginning in 2015-16. This proposal was put forth as a motion, and the motion passed with 4 yes, 2 no, and 1 abstention votes.

Fitness & Recreation:

The committee unanimously voted to fund Fitness & Recreation at the proposed 2014-15 level. A committee member mentioned that he/she was impressed with how well the Rec Pass was managed, and how it incents students to utilize the programs’ activities and resources. Another member commented that the unit provides a good return to students on the SSF investment.

Student Health:

The committee unanimously voted to fund Student Health at the proposed 2014-15 level. A committee member was impressed by how well the unit tracks the utilization of its services. Another member mentioned that he/she now understands how Student Health’s services differ from the services provided under the student healthplan (UC SHIP).

Office of Career and Professional Development (OCPD):

The committee unanimously voted to approve OCPD’s request for $36,422 in recurring funding for the career counselor position. The committee appreciates that the unit targets its services to the schools at the most appropriate times in the academic calendar.

*The committee would like to revisit how OCPD will spend its funding at the next meeting.*

Student Government (GPSA):

The committee unanimously voted to fund the new student government organization at the proposed 2014-15 level.

Student Life:

The committee unanimously voted to fund Student Life at the proposed 2014-15 level.

Committee members complimented Student Life staff expressing their gratitude for the unit’s efforts in supporting RCO events and the student government organizations. Staff provide quick response times to student inquiries and needs, and are much appreciated by the students.

Wellness:

The committee voted not to fund the Wellness Program’s request for $10,000 in temporary support to cover the costs associated with students accessing the Wellness services. The committee understands that the Wellness Program’s services are intended for faculty and staff, and that students have utilized its services in the past without being turned away. The committee encourages Wellness staff to inform students who come to Wellness events that comparable and student-oriented services are provided by Student Health.
The committee would like to include the following language in the recommendation letter: “We understand the Wellness Program is funded for faculty and staff, and the consequence of students being turned away is known and understood.”

Arts & Events:
The committee unanimously voted to fund Arts & Events at the proposed 2014-15 level.

The committee would like Arts & Events staff to increase its advertising and promotional activities in order to increase student participation. Some suggestions include partnering with Student Life to advertise its events in the “Inside Guide” and more promotional activities through social media.

Voting: See above under “Discussions & Recommendations” section for voting outcomes.

Adjournment: 7:43 PM