Washburn University Board of Regents
Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
November 30, 2011

Regents Present: Dan Lykins (committee chair), Pam O’Toole (committee member), Bob Storey (committee member), Jennifer Sourk, Jim Klausman, Bill Sneed

The meeting was called to order at 10:34 a.m.

Minutes of the May 26, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.

President Farley reviewed the demographic analysis consisting of reports for enrollment, tuition, and faculty salaries.

Vice President Anderson distributed the Washburn Tech Enrollment Summary for Fall 2011 and Tuition and Required Fee Rates. Washburn Tech Interim Director, Joe Emmons, discussed the general trends for technical education and more specifically the corporate training plan being provided for the Mars Company.

Regent Storey left the meeting. Prior to his departure he asked if any action items would be voted on and was told no action items were anticipated.

Washburn tuition and fees compared to those of the Kansas Regents schools were discussed.

President Farley reviewed the Faculty Salary Analysis, noting that we compete for faculty on a national basis so we need to know that we can be competitive. Although steady progress had been made to catch up with salaries of other public master’s level institutions we have slipped in the last three years. To retain and attract qualified faculty it is necessary to have a salary increase.

Washburn Student Government Association representatives Michael Kitowski and Miles Howe commented on the open student forums held this Fall for input regarding tuition increases. Although there is no mechanism to survey the entire student body regarding a tuition increase, the students who attended the forums understand faculty and staff need to be fairly compensated. Transparency of the budget helps to better inform students of the benefits of tuition increases.

Regent Lykins indicated at least five of the six Regents schools will be giving raises this fiscal year, adding we need to keep the best and brightest faculty to attract the best and brightest students.

Sources and uses of funds were discussed. It is anticipated there will be no increase or reduction in State aid this year.

In the absence of committee members Parks and Storey, Board Chairman Jim Klausman was appointed to the committee for this meeting in order to have a quorum. It was moved and seconded to recommend to the full Board of Regents at the December 9, 2011 meeting, to increase salaries by 2.95%. This includes a 1.95% cost of living increase and 1% performance increase. Regent Moses pointed out his concern that Regent Storey left the meeting thinking there was to be no action item and then to find out that an action had been taken. Chairman Lykins said he would contact Regent Parks and Regent Storey to discuss the recommendation with them. Motion carried.

Specific tuition increases will be discussed at a later date.

The next committee meeting will be scheduled prior to the February Board of Regents meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:06 p.m.