

University of Virginia Student Council

General Body Meeting

October 2nd, 2018

Meeting began at 6:3

Melody VP of Finance: I'm here tonight to give you an overview as we start to enter into the budget and tuition setting process at the university. We're trying to get more transparency to how we make our decisions. We want to let you know what the university does as we go forward. I'll go through the current budget, its sources and revenues and our spending. I'll talk about AccessUVA, I'll show you the tuition and budget timeline to let you know where we are in the process. We'll talk about the questions we think about when we go into this, like revenues and initiatives. President Ryan is going through a strategic planning process. Our total budget is about 1.8 billion dollars, 600 mil from tuition and fees. Externally sponsored research is the next largest source, most of this comes from the federal gov at 400 million. 150 million from the state, coming out of tax dollars and the general assembly appropriation. The endowment distribution comes next. We do not spend the balance of the endowment, we spend about 5% off of the endowment every year to ensure there's still an endowment supporting the operations of the institution that's 200 million. Expendable gifts from donors as well as the endowment are restricted as to what we can spend it on. Sales and services are auxiliary activities like athletic, housing, dining, and the bookstore at 1.8 billion. As for spending, 500 million goes to direct instruction. Research and public service gets 400 million, funded by external sponsors like the fed gov. Deans libraries and academic technology get about 200 million. Student services get about 50 million. General administration including my office, accounting, HR, the president's office and fundraising administrative areas is 60 million. Operating and maintaining facilities is about 200 million. Financial aid is about 143 million, this is not all we provide, a great portion is actually funded out of tuition.

When we go into trying to determine what tuition will be for the next year we set core principles. Tuition is the last resort, we look at all the other revenues of funding first. Then if we still need revenues to meet our spending needs we start looking at tuition. Our goal is to minimize increases to students, particularly continuing students. We try to hit around inflation, 2.2-2.5 percent for in state students and 3.5 percent for out of state students. We do approve tuition in December for incoming students, so we can work on aid packages for seniors considering admission as soon as possible. Programs might cost more because engineering might need more equipment, comm or batten might need student advising or faculty salaries. The school of nursing has a required clinical ratio of faculty to students. One of the important things to think about is Access UVA, we're trying to make it more sustainable. We meet all demonstrated need for in state and out of state students. We and UNC are the only public institutions who do that for in state and out of state students. We try to keep affordability for everyone by keeping everyone graduating on time. One of the interesting things about this program is we can guarantee students with family incomes of less than 80,000 receiving grants equal to tuition and fees. Our loans are capped. We're trying to create endowment funds to sustain AccessUVA so tuition doesn't have to cover it.

We aren't just looking at spending more money, we're trying to invest in core academic programs. The delta force program evaluated the total use of electricity and space usage and was able to make the college buildings more environmentally sustainable and reduce utility costs by 100 million. Strategic

procurement is an initiative where we look at discount pricing for commonly used supplies across grounds so we can reduce costs and put those towards direct academic needs.

We added on Wednesday a public session available to any student that wanted to come, the same presentation you see here. Internally we had meetings last week to go out to the schools, the schools are now working to see what their budgets will look like next year. We've added in this meeting with you to provide more information on the budget process and priorities. October 12th the schools will ask us for tuition and fees increases, the proposals come early so we can take them to the board in December. We're working to add a student tuition committee meeting with the finance officers in each school in October. We'll be building the prelim tuition proposal, and meet again with the student committee in November. There will be a public notice on November 7th. In late November we can come back here and tell you the exact proposal, post that and it'll go to the BOV December 7th.

The schools will consider what their new needs might be, as to what new technology they might be needing and the sizes of classes. Smaller classes will cost more. The new curriculum in the college is an intensive experience and if that gets expanded it will be costlier to put forward. Additional faculty hiring across disciplines is considered. The library is facing cost increases, maintaining the catalogue and digital services. The increases in cost has been in the 5-10% inflation range. Added new student services as per advising and counseling is also additionally costly.

In some years we will get a reduction in state appropriation when the state reduces taxes. The good news is we have no indication there will be a general fund decrease. We will think about faculty salary increases. A 1% faculty salary increase is 2.6 million dollars. Private funds like endowment do go to faculty salary at times. President Ryan is studying what we should do for the minimum, starting wage here. Healthcare premiums are increasing and will require additional funding. Other utilities are increasing in pricing and we're doing our best to reduce our usage. Do we need improvements in campus safety, and are we meeting needs for student health and wellness? There will be two more years for student fee increases due to the new student health center. Another one we're looking at is recreational facilities, busses and transportation.

I will pause a bit and see if you have priorities and concerns around this. I will tell you things we've heard is staff salaries and minimum hiring wage, programs that require additional resources, maintaining faculty excellence to maintain the value of your degree. I'd be happy to hear other comments

Avery: I just wanted to add to priorities I've noticed there's a serious need for diverse faculty. Already there are two classes on China at this point and neither of them have been taught by east Asians. Are professors of diverse backgrounds considered for specific classes or general ones?

There are bicentennial professorship funds given with the intention of increasing the diversity of faculty to raise funds and recruit the best across the board. That's a really good point I'll make note of and when we have that meeting with school and financial officers we can bring it up

Question: With regard to Aramark how is the university connected and how can they influence how the

Melody: We're in contract with them and in conversation on how to increase hiring wages. We cannot require it, if they were to do it the cost of providing services would go up and we would see an increase in dining services for that. Nothing has been done or settled at this point but it has been spoken of

Question follow up: Are Aramark employees included in President Ryan's building bridges conversation

Melody: They are a part of it but they are a separate part of it. Their benefits as contracted employees

Question: Does the university spend money to promote donorship

Melody: There is an advancement, if you don't go out to woo the donors you won't get any. We only use private money for advancement, we're in the quiet phase of a 5 billion dollar campaign but we don't use tuition money or government money for that. We would never use that

Follow up: Has the university ever had to add funds to a donor-initiated program?

Melody: We use matching funds with the return, we don't use tuition and fees. We usually put the money up front to attract the donor. Over a million dollars is a 1:1 match.

Follow up: is that a net loss

Melody: Not generally, sometimes you get gifts that require spending in maintenance, it does result in cultivating relationships with donors that results in gifts getting bigger over time and we're looking at an end goal

Question: Is the concept of a tuition freeze coming up?

Melody: We do have an optional guaranteed plan at one rate for the next four years. When you do that we do anticipate what we'd need for the next four years the increase is bigger than inflation. We've kept our instate at 2.2-2.4 percent so that's lower than a freeze.

Avery: Even if it's only 2.5 percent that's difficult for lower income students to budget for. I'm going off the stats of last year, like a thousand dollar increase.

Melody: One of the good things is the loan cap, it doesn't increase every year. If you're a low-income Virginian, if the total goes up by 3.5 percent and the need goes up it will be matched by grants.

Avery: There are a lot of students who decide with the intent to go to say McIntire, the tuition increases like last year which was 16% could happen. So how are they supposed to prepare and budget for that?

Melody: One thing I can tell you to do is talk to folks and see what happens, the cost dramatically changes if you're a student with need. Sit down with SFS who will partner with Batten and McIntire, I don't want it to keep anyone from applying because the price is high because the way colleges give out aid is very different across schools

Question: on the sources and uses slide there's a 4-million-dollar difference where does it go?

Melody: that's generally a restricted fund for a savings for emergencies, for reserves. Or restricted in purpose.

Question: I noticed a bullet point on student safety, I wondered if there are specific programs you expect to admit more funds to in the future.

Melody: I went backwards and thought of reasons we expanded before, like late night busses and safe ride. There may be some things, like if we heard of a particular need that what we're looking to fund.

Ellie: our main focus for today is budgets, in order to save time, we're gonna switch around the agenda a bit. We'll start with community concerns.

Alex: So, community concerns, it's gonna be a long meeting in general. Any community concerns/

Galen: So, I noticed on Beta Bridge it said VA was for lovers and Louisville is for strippers, I don't know who did it but in this political climate that is not ok.

There are events for specific careers that are not being communicated to students before the day of.

Megha: I noticed the new Brandon avenue apartments are priority to current first years, and there isn't really a quota system for upperclassmen. So, I don't know what we can do about that but there should be a way to make an equal chance.

Pretty sure it's only upperclassmen.

Megha: like rising second years

Comment: The source has been acting really weird, a bunch of organizations I've been a part of have been bumped and moved. I know all the other organizations have had similar issues. It's a pretty general but widespread concern.

Omar: With Alderman library, its a 160 million dollar renovation and the majority of the funds coming from state, and jpj cost 131 million. They're destroying old stacks and new stacks. I just wanted to get that out there.

Alex: It's a valid concern, it is a fire and safety issue and especially so they can make the library ADA accessible

Lukas: If I may I think this is an issue outside of community concerns that shouldn't be talked about now for time constraints

Concern: This is a concern to the O'Hill community, the hours are getting cut at Aramark. Workers with refugee programs are not able to do their English lessons anymore because the hours are getting cut, it's problematic the employees aren't being added to this building bridges dialogue.

Alex: because their hours are being cut they don't meet the threshold to receive English lessons

Concern: The university is investing in their own employees, and isn't trying to go towards the Aramark employees. Their hours being cut mean they cannot afford to go to English class.

Concern 2: You mentioned those employees aren't allowed to participate is because they're contracted worker under state law the entity that's signing the contract has no ability to regulate that company's employees. It's a Virginia law preventing the university to have say what they're paid and what access to resources they have. We're working right now in leg affairs to interpret it and approach the legislature to reverse it and give the university power to make change.

Alex: Introduce yourself

Denzel: I'm the new first year class president, I don't know what jurisdiction the university has on this. I had to pick the lock to get into the dorm I locked myself out of. I called management services, and they

said I had to pay 75 dollars and they're closed all weekend. I don't know if we have jurisdiction but if first years are paying so much to live in their dorms.

Comment: Maybe you get like one free unlocking

Denzel: 75 dollars is a bit excessive,

Katie: The first two weeks they'll let you off scott free but after that they want to increase accountability.

Alex: That was a rapid-fire community concern round

Exec updates

Ellie: We have changes to the agenda because this will be a long budget meeting. Hopefully we can conserve everyone's time.

Alex: I apologize for being nasally I'm a bit sick. Today we have budget night. We're really trying to get student input in university relations, especially for programs we're working on like free menstrual hygiene and diverse faculty hiring. Menstrual hygiene and police advisory initiatives are underway we've been making a lot of progress. Meeting with chief Sutton and Gloria graham next Friday. Board selected by mid-November. I've been in contact with various interested communities. That'll be one thing accomplished by the end of the semester. Megha will be sending out emails on student input in faculty hiring. Recently legislative affairs will be looking to attacking the living wage issue on a legislative side rather than expressing solidarity. We're hoping to tackle this in a systematic way. The issue of open housing has come up once again, diversity engagement committee will be tackling that issue. So students who are trans identifying or non-conforming will be able to live where they choose to depending on how they identify. There is no formal process at this moment and it's unnecessarily difficult to go through the process now in emailing a specific person. Vote for my budget.

For the newly elected people introduce yourselves and congratulations!

Camilla: Fall break is almost here hang in there. Emphasizing the importance of community concerns a lot of our cabinet efforts stem from these. I hope you guys are excited for cabinet projects like I am!

Ty: We just wrapped up rolling round one. Round two requests are due this evening. We're at about 9 CIO applications. It's probably about 13 now. For reps there is a CIO bill on the table from last week, I asked both organizations to speak during public comment but they are not here. I'll talk more about it during legislative session. I would also say for new reps welcome and I would encourage you from abstaining from voting in this bill because you do not have the information.

Taylor: Fall recruitment is finally coming to an end. All acceptance emails should hopefully be sent out by now. We'd hate to have students out there not hearing if they got in. Denials will be sent out soon probably right after gen bod. Friday by 6 pm you should have your responses back. Slack me or Noah so we can add them to the Listserv and roster and you can add them to Slack. As for the budget, this is my favorite meeting. Thank you everyone for the work you've been doing so far. Thank you chairs for getting me those numbers sooner and reps it's your role as checks and balances so thank you for meeting Friday. This should go by faster because we've already had initial questions. Not having to get something knocked out in one week should really help the student body to think through our initiatives. All the reps should have the updated budget, it's the most recent version. Once we get into the budget

session I'll point out what changes are made and right now quickly. Cuts that were made, discretionary funds from all committees are gone now. Diversity engagement and campus closet and winter wonderland program cut. We cut adobe, athletic affairs we got rid of the pipeline. Student life we're cutting down to dining donations. Amended the leg affairs food to non-SAF. Arts changed where they had discretionary funds so now it's line item. Building and grounds, Gooch Dillard grave site we're changing funding to that. For sustainability the sustainabanquet had some additional funding. And we cut down more food. Thank you guys for all the work.

Question: For diversity winter wonderland, that's cut?

Taylor: Yes, the whole thing

Ellie: So, announcements, food pantry initiative 641 swipes so 641 pounds of food for the pantry. Next Friday 2-5 launch event in Runk greenroom. We had our first align conference committee meeting this past Saturday, all the chairs are really excited for this project. Free menstrual hygiene is moving to the libraries and Newcomb the month after. Now we're moving into leadership reports

Leadership reports:

Megha: On October 12th the cavalier education applications are closing. Our committee will then be interviewing after that.

Emily: There's an arts CIO spotlight going out every week on the UVA student council Facebook page. This past week was ecstasy dance crew. The application is open October 22nd through December first for arts funding projects.

Erin: This past Tuesday I went to the first athletic advisory board meeting and represented our opinions. Links to social media accounts in the external newsletter.

Connor: We're in the planning stages of peer housing advocates storm talk, process of finding housing as a second-year advice to first years. Hoping to have a flier and pp presentation designed by end of fall break happening at the end of October. Also, I'm the city council liaison, meeting was yesterday. Allocated 2.4 million to affordable housing and approved the permit for a hotel replacing the burnt down shell of the hotel near Carrs Hill Field. They approved a new clerk of council. Closer to UVA, someone brought up concerns of lighting near Brady avenue the council is hoping to partner with UVA and find ways to improve it. They need consent of all property owners to improve the lighting.

Sarah: My committee is working with ODOS and UVA dining for a thanksgiving dinner for students who don't go home. Campus closet is still going forward without funding we're partner with local stores for that. We're trying to figure out a way to get open housing in first year dorms. I have an update from PLUMAS, they're having a fundraiser for jail bonds off Preston Friday October 19th, Friday.

Isaac: We're continuing to register people to vote. The dorm registration with RAs is going beautifully we're going to take those numbers to HRL and show them how engaged first years can be in voting. We're hoping to make progress on that front. We're doing work looking at the living wage project and make headway on that.

Katie: We are the best committee on student council. The ISC has partnered with us again in October and November for free menstrual hygiene. Today I met with the director for the office of health promotion and ran through our current projects with her. The things you're seeing on the budget are

approved of by OHP. We're looking into increased vape and juul use and affects on students. After fall break we're having UPD and officer meet and greets. There will be pizza and drinks and chief Sutton will be at both. I'm also working on the model for a UPD town hall and it's in the early stages.

Abby: we presented to third year council on Sunday on zero waste events.

VPO Updates

We just finished up our allocations for rolling round one. We have our first committee meeting with new members on Wednesday. Today was deadline for rolling round two for funding requests.

VPA

Noah: I'm the director of membership today's my mom's birthday and I got vaccinated for the flu. All new members should've been emailed or else I'll be really sad. Also, I'll be sending you an Excel spreadsheet that you can add to so we can fix our listerv. It's census season, I'll be sending that out in the genbod channel.

Rep Reports

Avery: Megha and I are creating a meeting with registrar's office. Second, we're working on a piece of legislation for UPD town hall initiatives. Third this is the last StudCo meeting before the voter reg deadline. With regards to the budget thank you reps for being fine with me badgering you.

Brian: Quick shout out to animal justice advocates, there are a few friendly amendments. Thank you for sitting through our meeting for the last hour and a half.

Omar: I met with the president of the living wage campaign to see how student council can best help. Second thing is we're waiting on the sustainability bill to come up and get better language on there. Third I'm sorry I brought up alderman renovations but I do thin

Ally: I started working with CAPS representatives to compile a list of free and inexpensive mental health resources. Some in the UVA community and some in Charlottesville.

Reminder the transfer student resource committee application is open for a little while. Please continue to share it.

Public Comment

Mary Alice: You have two minutes to speak on legislation that we will be discussing later this evening. Keep the comments respectful and audience don't clap or snap.

Isabelle: copresident of animal justice advocates. Last spring we created a petition to give a student choice in allowing students to opt out of dissections got 452 signatures. We drafted an end dissection initiative. When Alex was elected president he reached out to us to pass a resolution and from here will we work with academic affairs to get in touch with administration. This past weekend we created another petition to end dissection at UVA and got over a hundred signatures to support the compassionate treatment of animals.

Elise: Wanted to share experience as a first year in the biology department. I expressed that I did not feel comfortable doing dissections as it violated my personal beliefs and my lab professor said that I

could either watch my partner perform the dissection or not come to lab and lose points. A lot more women are vegan than men and I think that if UVA wants to support women in STEM. I reached out to title 9 they couldn't prove it was discrimination based on my gender but it was discrimination against my beliefs and deterred me from going into other science classes.

Lynn : Assistant professor in the English department, dissection is violence. Procurement of animal bodies is grounded in violence against animals. Second dissection not only requires a prerequisite violence against animals, it teaches violence against animals. Animals are labeled mere specimens for student use. So, students are taught in subtle and not subtle ways that this violence is necessary and just which is a lie. Violence operates in its most insidious form and is not seem as violence when it becomes tradition. Moreover, dissection ostracizes students who resist this violence and are told they are not fit for the discipline and must leave.

Legislation session

Attendance is taken

Minutes of last meeting pass.

Ellie: Moving on to FB18-13, I'll motion to bring it off the table.

Ty: I wanted to say, nothing has changed from last week I did add a document sent to me from the organization in the bill. I would say that the question on the table is the principle of non-duplication. So, in terms of voting, I want you all to take your time in this discussion. If you need to take time to make an informed decision I encourage you to take the necessary time to do so.

Omar: I want to say that we should table so the new reps can take the time to learn about it.

FB18-13 is tabled.

Ellie: moving on to FR18-15, so as you all have seen through public comments this is an issue animal justice advocates has been working on this incredibly hard. Brian and I have been working with AJA for a couple of weeks now, we went through what they wanted the resolution to look like. I think it's very important, it shows we can be an ally to organizations and bring it to the university. I urge you to think not only about your personal beliefs but what this would mean in terms of support of a student group.

Comment: Just to say to everyone the issue I have with this bill is that it takes a controversial issue like dissection and brings in non-controversial language denouncing violence against humans and it feels like the language is there to guilt people. I would like to take that language out.

Ellie: comments on that?

Kate: I agree, it's taking two issues and combining them into one and adds an unnecessary emotional component. It's great we're having this conversation but my question is at what point do we as representatives remove emotion from a passionate conversation and have a clear cut statement on what we support and what we do not support. It takes the rational process out of the conversation.

Avery: we do want to remove emotional language sprinkled throughout, I would support tabling it and readdressing the language

Ellie: In terms of the emotion it is an emotional issue to the people bringing it up

Lukas: So, for my own thoughts, this seems like a big issue that I personally would have to abstain because I don't know enough about the topic. I personally don't think I know enough and would love to hear from students in the bio and psych departments and experts and the departments to see where the practice is going

Ellie: So, what I'm here is we need more time to think and research and talk so I'll motion to table this resolution to table

FR18-13 is tabled.

Alex: I think in general when considering resolutions, I think the question of emotion injected in the resolution or not I don't think it's a question relevant to passing the specific policy requests of the resolution. As representatives you're aware as to what the asks are and the resolves are. Thank you to AJA for coming today, I hope you come the 16th when the resolution is brought up again. I think it's clear what the resolution is asking for and it's not difficult to parse out what emotional language is in there.

Motion to bring FR18-13 is brought back off the table

Kate: one I want someone from the med school like the rep here to have this conversation. Student council rep body reps all schools at the university. This is a big step. I understand passion is important, I would like to hear from the bio department and the med school. I don't think anyone here is saying no. In writing legislation in general I think it's important to remove the emotional components.

Zarah: Gradual cessation I agree with, there are no clear first steps. I know from personal experience there are high tech educational tools. It seems vague to say gradual cessation in terms of the medical school as there's a human element to the bill. It's addressing more, I would like to see clarification.

Ellie: AJA has wrote out a plan to do this, we can send that out.

Zarah: this is a really big step, and I personally would like to see more detail. Those are great first steps but they are really broad. It's a change to the way people are learning.

Erin: I know I also want people from bio and med school to talk on this I don't know much about dissection or how effective the alternatives are. The med school rep isn't here to speak opposing this, their representative came and I don't think it's the role of reps to speak on a voice that is potentially not there at all. They haven't shown opposition from anyone that could show opposition to this. I would also like that information so I personally will be doing more research.

Katie: I'd like to include the nursing school in this, I'm seeking feedback from our AP instructor

Brian: I appreciate AJA presenting their policy proposal but I think we need a dissenting opinion and I want to know I'm making an informed decision but I'm thankful AJA came and showed their passion.

Chi: I would like to motion to table for a later date

FR18-13 is tabled, again.

The Honorable Michael J Horth: Hi everybody. Reps everyone should've gotten the most recent budget from Taylor. We should have a quicker process because of this.

Friendly amendment suggested to academic affairs budget for two different initiatives. First and fifth initiatives in question. From 500 dollars to 300.

Michael: As you can see our budget as compared to last year, SAF wise we have 7,500 less. Our spending yield was 70% of the budget, much better than the 60% of the year before. The student activities committee measures the way we use our money to support things rather than non-used allocation. Using 1,520 dollars more from non-SAF. We've added all the new administrative committees to the budget. Taylor and I will quickly go through and highlight all the changes made from the original budget to the one sent an hour and a half ago.

Taylor: I'll point out the changes I talked about in my exec update. This should be a quick process. Academic affairs, that's a friendly amendment that's been changed. Any other further questions will be done during leg session. I'm presenting the budget as is. Arts advocacy initiatives were given line items so we're more exact and committees don't get discretionary funds. Athletic affairs, no pipeline. That was included in the summer budget. The Gooch Dillard grave site the two, line items were brought together.

Comment: we got an estimate back from the landscape architect at 10,250 dollars we're providing half and getting grant funding for the rest

Taylor: campus closet and winter wonderland cut out. Leg affairs had food moved from SAF to non-SAF. Safety and wellness are the same. Service is the same. For student life the food in the university services fair is cut out they're using dining donations.

Sustainability: Sustainabanquet, the 10th anniversary of earth week so we're hosting in the rotunda so that's why the fees went up

Taylor: adobe subscriptions were cut because that was in the summer budget. Membership and outreach stay the same. Technology, the student council website isn't exactly pretty and we've had chairs say that peopled talked about initiatives that are years old. The way it's organized, nothing is organized. Our camera charger stopped working so we need to replace that. Rep body is the same, split into SAF and non SAF. Those are responses to questions; any further discussion will be further amendment to the budget

Ellie: Now reps and chairs will discuss budgets together. So, the leg session will be voting on proposed amendments. We'll go committee by committee. For academic affairs the iclicker initiative was defended, any comments on the defense? Moving on to Arts, the question posed by the rep body was as to why the arts fund increased by 1,000 when it was 1,000 spent last year. Last year they had 4,000 dollars given and money will go back into student artists who had a lack of funding.

Arts chair: in January last year we did only spend 1,000 but we had way more requests than we were able to fund by the end of the year so all the money does go back.

Ellie: Any other comments? On to athletic affairs, anything?

Alex: no pipeline

Ellie: Buildings and grounds, how will be burial grounds be upkeep? Facilities management is the answer. Community relations, the same from last time. Diversity engagement, there's a question on what movie is picked so response? Can SAF be used for movie rights?

Sarah: I got the estimate from UPC we'd be able to take it out and I know people who work on UPC with movies and we could get them to co-sponsor and pay for that.

Michael: we can use SAF for movie rights

Ellie: Why 8000 stickers for hand sanitizers? Well it's for ISC recruitment.

Katie: When I met with Jaime Leonard she said ISC recruitment was responsible for the flu outbreak

Ally: Aren't a lot of the people who do rush first years?

Katie: Yes, but they aren't all first years and it would also go to girls in the houses.

Ellie: Nothing changed in Service. Student life concerns? Nope.

Comment: Not to go into summer budget mode but I don't think SAF funds should be used for discretionary funds I just wanna say I don't like it.

Alex: Thank you for providing that perspective, the minutes are being taken and, in the future, we can come back to it.

Ellie: Alright if there are no further comments we can move back into the legislative session.

FB18-16, a bill to approve the 2018 academic budget.

Motion to table, second, tabled.

The meeting ended at 8:40