





Memorandum

To: Carmen Scholz  
President, Faculty Senate

From: Robert A. Altenkirch   
President

Christine W. Curtis   
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Subject: Response to Faculty Senate Resolution 17/18-07 Reestablishment of  
Budget and Planning Committee and Establishment of University and  
College Fee Committees

Date: January 5, 2018

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Faculty Resolution 17/18-07 requests that the President reestablish the Budget and Planning Committee. The Resolution also requests that the Chair of the Faculty Senate Finance Committee and either the President-Elect of the Faculty Senate or the President of the Faculty Senate serve as members on the Budget and Planning Committee. The Resolution further requests that the President establish a separate University Fee Committee and separate College Fee Committees.

Currently, and for the foreseeable future, the University is funded by state appropriations that have been stable over the last several years and by tuition and fees. Several years ago, University fees were rolled into the tuition and have largely lost their identity. This revenue is allocated by the President to different parts of the University to fulfill their instructional, research, and service obligations. College fees and course fees are levied on a per credit hour basis and at this time are allocated to the colleges as a revenue source that is used to provide for the instructional, research and outreach needs of the colleges.

In response to the Faculty Senate's Resolution 17/18-07, a Budget and Planning Advisory Council will be established, beginning with the academic year 2018-2019. The Vice President for Business and Finance will be asked to chair the Advisory Council. As with the previous committee, the Advisory Council membership will represent a broad cross section of the campus, students, faculty, staff, faculty senate, staff senate, deans, department chairs, research center directors, and budget resource managers. The Advisory Council membership will include the Chair of the Faculty Senate Finance Committee, the President-Elect or the President of the Faculty Senate and

representatives of the campus constituencies mentioned. The President, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, the Vice President for Student Affairs, and the Vice President for University Advancement will serve as ex officio members of the Advisory Council.

The goal of the Budget and Planning Advisory Council is to develop understanding of the budgeting process and to have meaningful discourse regarding major budget issues facing the University for the next fiscal year's operating budget and beyond. The Advisory Council will provide thoughts and insights into the major budget issues but is not charged with providing recommendations on specific budgetary items, expenditures, or allocations.

A separate committee on University fees and on college fees is not necessary because, as stated above, fees are simply one more source of revenue that is applied toward the University's mission of teaching, research and service and are used by the colleges and other budgetary units to pay for salaries, benefits, and operational costs.

c: Todd Barré, Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Laterrica Simmons, Director of Compliance and Title IX Coordinator

# THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

## FACULTY SENATE

### FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 17/18-07:

#### Reestablishment of Budget and Planning Committee and Establishment of University and College Fee Committees

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**History:** Bill 415 was submitted to FSEC for first reading on 10/12/2017  
Bill 415 passed first reading on FSEC on 10/12/2017  
Bill 415 passed second reading in Faculty Senate unanimously on 11/16/2017

**Whereas** fiscal transparency is critical for a public higher-education institution,

**Whereas** the majority of funding at the University of Alabama in Huntsville is from tuition and fees charged to students,

**Whereas** faculty are a primary interface between the University and the students,

**Therefore, be it resolved**

that the President of the University reestablish the Budget and Planning Committee, and

**Be it further resolved**

that the Budget and Planning Committee be a committee, via the definition of a committee in the Faculty Handbook, and that the Chair of the Faculty Senate Finance Committee and either the President-Elect or the President of the Faculty Senate be members of the Budget and Planning Committee, and

**Be it further resolved**

that the Budget and Planning Committee meet at least twice during each Academic Year Semester, and at least once during the Summer Term,

**Be it further resolved**

that the President of the University establish a separate University Fee Committee. This committee will be charged with developing plans and implementations for the use of the Building Fees, Safety and Security Fee, Technology Fee, Instructional Facilities, and other fees the committee considers appropriate. The fees for consideration of this committee include those currently or traditionally charged as a part of Tuition and Fees, whether they are currently named or not. Membership on this committee will include a member of the Faculty Senate Finance Committee, and other University-wide faculty necessary to establish a committee, and

**Be it further resolved**

that the President of the University establish separate College Fee Committees. These committees will be charged with developing plans and implementations for the use of College Specific Fees. Membership on this committee will include a member of the Faculty Senate Finance Committee, and other College-wide faculty necessary to establish a committee.