

EKU Faculty Senate Budget Committee Meeting
October 27, 2017
New Science Building, Room 3136

Minutes

- I. Approval of minutes from September 22, 2017.
- II. Continued discussion of charges to the committee.
- III. As ECU maintains a list of official benchmarks (found at <http://ir.eku.edu/benchmark/eku>), the committee performed a comparison of the average salaries at these institutions with the salaries at ECU. The results were presented at the meeting. ECU faculty at the rank of professors earned 90.6% of the similarly ranked faculty at the Benchmark institutions. A similar comparison for associate professor showed them earning 92.6% and, at the assistant professor rank, 98.6%. The data were obtained from the Chronicle of Higher education, <https://data.chronicle.com/>
- IV. Also stemming from the charges given to the committee, an analysis of the expenditure of the Athletic department and programs was performed and the results were discussed. The data can be found at the budgeting website. In particular, at <http://budgeting.eku.edu/transparency-and-accountability>

In the years between 2008 and 2016, the Maintenance and Organization operating budget (M&O) of all Athletics Departments and Programs was found to be, on average, approximately 9% of the University budget for this category, with an upward trend (it was 8.5% in 2008, and reached 11.09% in 2016). The M&O budget includes expenses for scholarships (no salary nor benefits were included). Further, the operating budget was compared with the actual expenditures (Operating budget is determined at the beginning of the fiscal year, the actual expenditures are determined at the end). It was found that the University as a whole underspends its operating M&O budget by approx. 3% (on average from 2008 to 2015), while the Athletic departments alone overspend theirs by an average of almost 16%.

No firm conclusion as the why of this occurrence was reached, as there was an open discussion on how the Revenue shown in the Operating budget is used by Athletics. The discussion will continue.

In Attendance

M. Ciocca, Z. E. Liddell, M. Winslow, S. Zeigler, Provost Whitehouse, B. Poynter