

**Budget Council**  
**February 7, 2024**

**Participants:**

Lori Peterson, Morgan Sandvick, Tyler Cox, Mike Stocke, David Johnson, Rachel Warren, Chad Miltenberger, Kt Peterson, Magdalena Moulton, Lori Loseth, Charles Boykins, Mike Boogaard, Stephanie Groom, Brooke Marshall (not present: Luke Fidge, Patrick Sisneros)

**Agenda:**

1. FY25 Budget Planning Update
2. Update on Budget Values & Principles
3. Achieving the Dream
4. Legislative Priorities

**Meeting summary:**

1. The Budget Values and Principles were approved on January 30th.
2. Over the next couple of weeks, the Vice Presidents will collaborate with their respective areas to review budget requests. We aim to review the budget requests in the next meeting, although it may be more likely to occur in the following meeting. Once we have reviewed the budget requests, we will make recommendations to College Council, which will then be presented to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) for their final review.
3. In March, we will increase the frequency of meetings to weekly to ensure enough time for reviewing budget requests.
4. We hope to meet with College Council along with the Vice Presidents by April 17<sup>th</sup> to share our recommendations.
5. The first budget read will be at the end of May.
6. We discussed whether WWCC should reengage with Achieving the Dream. Achieving the Dream works with colleges across the United States to develop and implement strategies aimed at improving student outcomes.
7. We previously partnered with Achieving the Dream, but we have discontinued the partnership. During our discussions, we identified one con: the expense. Additionally, there was concern about duplicating efforts with Guided Pathways and Complete College America. However, a significant advantage would be the potential to establish a network with other colleges and universities.
8. We reviewed the State Board's legislative priorities for the next biennium. Legislative priorities are closely tied to the Budget Council, and input is crucial as it helps determine our state allocation. The recommendation was made that all student-facing statements should be given high priority.
9. If there are any additional priorities not mentioned, please submit your suggestions.
10. During our review of the legislative priorities, there was a discussion about advisory committees. Advisory committees play a crucial role in understanding industry needs; however, their

effectiveness can vary. Additionally, the Workforce Development Council assists in identifying in-demand jobs and those that are not.

11. It was discussed that some of our declining student enrollment could be attributed to us offering two-year associate degrees instead of four-year bachelor programs.
12. We discussed various strategies to encourage students to prioritize education over immediate employment opportunities.

**Next meeting: February 28, 2024, 4:00pm-5:00pm**