Members Present:  Bob Barnett, David Gordon, Vahid Lotfi, and DJ Trela

Guests:  David Barthelmes, Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance
        Jerry Glasco, Director of Financial Services and Budget
        Brad Maki, Director of Graduate Admissions
        Beth Manning, Assistant Director/Office of Human Resources

Gerard called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Graduate Research Instructors ► Brad indicated that over the last three or four years, we have had a handful of Graduate Student Instructors; however, the program was not very cost efficient in that we were required to provide them with health and dental insurance during their employment. He explained that during the most recent negotiations of the GEO Contract, Flint was able to take our concerns to the table and eventually a settlement was agreed whereby Flint and Dearborn campuses will not be required to provide GRI’s health and dental insurance unless the threshold is 25% or higher. Brad disseminated a handout showing two scenarios and the cost savings between hiring a GEO versus a LEO I. He explained that the minimum requirement for GEO’s is being enrolled in 6 credit hours at Michigan resident rate using standard tuition during employment.

The Deans had several questions regarding the relationship between GEO and LEO which Beth addressed. She also indicated that the process for hiring a GEO would involve the HR posting system. The Deans were very supportive of the opportunity and understood the benefits and differences in hiring both GEO’s and LEO’s. Beth indicated that implementation training would be provided for both the GEO and LEO contracts in the near future and that a GEO calendar were be available at that time.

Budget Model ► David provided an overview of what has been happening at the state level in terms of appropriations and indicated that currently the Governor is proposing an increase of approximately 7%. He also provided some details regarding how the House is handling the Governor’s proposal and said that David Lossing has been staying on top of the situation and keeping him apprised. A decision should be made by the end of May.

Jerry provided two handouts based on the Governor’s proposal showing scenarios of a 3.5% tuition increase and a 3% tuition increase which also incorporates a merit program. Jerry walked through the spreadsheets with the deans explaining what some of the figures would mean to their individual units.
David added that we are trying to look at a conservative budget but, of course, enrollment will be a factor but right now our preliminary enrollment figures look good.

Fees were discussed and the timeline for receiving a decision from the Chancellor; decisions will be provided in writing. Jerry indicated that fees will have an impact on the proposed budget but not a significant one. The initiatives fund was also discussed and deans were interested in what items were being supported. Jerry indicated that several items that are being supported have been driven from the Strategic Plan. He indicated that if units have items that they would like placed on the list, the best way to do that is to run it through the Provost.

Approval of Minutes of March 28, 2013 ► The Minutes of March 28 were approved as amended.

Matters Arising ► No items.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.