



July 14, 2015

Jeffrey Wilkes, Professor of Physics
Chair, Faculty Council on Teaching and Learning

Dear Jeff,

When the university adopted Activity-Based Budgeting in 2012, there was an understanding that ABB policies might need to be revised in light of experience, and an ABB Review Committee was established to monitor the operation of ABB and to recommend policy changes when needed.

Several of the ABB issues that have come to the attention of the Review Committee have implications for the academic and research missions of the university that go well beyond the mandate of the Review Committee, so the committee asked the Faculty Senate and the Board of Deans and Chancellors to develop policy recommendations. We have decided that, as a start, these issues should be taken up by existing councils.

We're writing to ask FCTL to address one of these issues: the relationship between ABB and summer quarter. When our ABB model was designed, it was decided that initially summer quarter would not be included under the auspices of the ABB formula, but instead treated as a self-sustaining or fee-based program; and that the decision should be revisited after a few years.

Therefore, we are asking FCTL to undertake a study of the pros and cons of changing the way the summer quarter budget is treated under ABB. Please consider the following questions, along with any other issues that the council deems important:

1. Should the university move toward considering summer quarter as an academic quarter on a more equal basis with the other three quarters?
2. Regardless of the answer to Question 1, should the university move toward budgeting funds for summer quarter based on the ABB model instead of the current fee-based model?
3. Would it make sense to make such a change on a college-by-college basis instead of university-wide?
4. What implications might such a change have for the following issues?
 - The ways in which 9-month faculty members are paid
 - The timing and financial support of faculty members' research
 - How students progress through their degree programs
 - Incentives for increasing offerings in some areas and decreasing them in others
 - The efficient use of classroom space
 - Administrative costs

In your discussions, please consult with any relevant stakeholders, including at least the following:

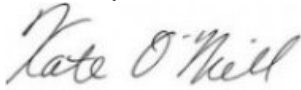
- The Office of Planning and Budgeting (Sarah Hall)
- Educational Outreach (Rovy Brannon)
- The deans, faculty councils, and student advisory councils of the colleges that teach large numbers of summer courses, particularly Arts & Sciences and Medicine
- The chancellors, faculty leaders, and student advisory councils of UW-Bothell and UW-Tacoma
- The Faculty Senate leadership (Kate O'Neill, Norm Beauchamp, and Zoe Barsness)

- The Board of Deans and Chancellors (Sandy Archibald)
- The Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs (Gordon Watts)
- ASUW and GPSS (Tyler Wu and Alex Bolton)

We've attached a report prepared for the ABB Review Committee by a prior working group, which might help get you started thinking about the issues.

We would appreciate it if you could provide the three of us (O'Neill, Archibald, and Hall) with a report on your findings, at least in preliminary form, by the end of Autumn Quarter 2015. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kate O'Neill
Chair, Faculty Senate
Professor of Law



Sandy Archibald
Co-chair, ABB Review Committee
Chair, Board of Deans and Chancellors
Dean and Professor, Evans School of Public Policy and Governance



Sarah Hall
Co-chair, ABB Review Committee
Assistant Vice Provost, Office of Planning and Budgeting

/nlb

Attachment: ABB Review Committee Report 10/28/2013