



**Meeting of the Budget Development Group #9  
February 15, 2022  
Minutes**

The following members participated: Anne Comfort, Philip Cormier, Nauman Farooqi, Jeff Hennessey, Robert Inglis, Margaret-Ellen Messinger, Chris Milner, Michael Nolan and Courtney Pringle Carver

**1. Minutes**

The February 10, 2022, minutes were approved as circulated.

**2. MASU Budget Submissions & Priorities**

Mr. Nowlan advised that MASU:

- Represents the educational, social, and personal concerns of Mount Allison's students.
- Part of student advocacy groups at the provincial (NBSA) and national level (CASA).
- Provides various services, such as health and dental insurance, Orientation and Shinerama, the Bike and Snowshoe Co-ops, and more.
- Assists in the operation of clubs and societies.
- Provides students with funding for activities that will enrich their academic experience.

Student Budget Themes include:

- Financial Accessibility i.e., reducing the cost of Post Secondary Education
- Accessible Education i.e., reducing learning barriers
- Health and Wellness
- Environmental Sustainability
- Indigenization through Equity Diversity & Inclusion

Student Budget Requests

- Fitness Centre maintenance
- Increased compensation for student employees, particularly for Residence Assistant and Assistant Don roles
- Investments in innovative learning opportunities, particularly for international students
- More financial assistance
- Lower tuition and fees

Specific Budget Priorities:

**1. Predictable Tuition**

- Tuition increases (domestic): 5.7% (2019-2020), 4.5% (2020-2021), 3% (2021-2022)
- Tuition increases (international): 3% (2019-2020), 2% (2020-2021), 3% (2021-2022)
- Each year, students express surprise to tuition increases, regardless of the percentage amount; therefore, we recommend providing a general rate by which tuition will increase in advance. For instance, stating that an increase of +/- 1-2% of inflation can be foreseen for the next four years.

**2. Student Academic Support Roles: Pay Equity**

- Currently, those in student academic support roles (i.e., TAs) are compensated inequitably for their work. Some have minimal responsibilities and are compensated at high levels,

- while others have a significant number of responsibilities and are compensated at low levels.
- This was identified by an experiential learning opportunity whereby the COMM-3321 class – HR Management – conducted a job evaluation on these student academic support roles across campus.
  - The final report from this work is being finalized, though it is likely that to remain consistent with the recommendations in it, increases to student support budgets (i.e., TA budgets) will be necessary.

### **3. Projections**

Mr. Inglis reviewed projections based on various scenarios.

### **4. Review VP Submissions**

Budget requests were reviewed by priority. New and current positions identified. Mr. Inglis advised the Finance Chair's priority is around things that will drive revenue.

#### Actions Required

- Chris to forward template with instructions to members and each member to provide their list of priorities within 1.5 million to Chris by 9 am Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>
- Chris will combine everyone's list into one list according to priority given for review at our next meeting Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

### **4. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted,  
Trudy Hicks,