University Budget Committee Meeting April 7, 2025 Minutes

In Attendance: Lisa Park Boush (Co-Chair), Michael Morrell (Co-Chair), Timothy Folta (Secretary), Jessica Chrabaszcz, Eleni Coundouriotis, Elena Dormidontova, Carrie Fernandes, Sandy Grande, Bryan Huey, Mannat Kadian, Anne Langley, Stephen Marchillo, Jeffrey McCutcheon, David Weber, Reka Wrynn, Michael White, Sydney Whittaker

Guests:

Public: Dedeep Singh

- I) Introductions
- II) Approval of Minutes <u>USBC Meeting Minutes 2025-3-3 draft.docx</u> (approved without objection)
- III) Announcements: none
- IV) Old Items
 - A) Travel (Jeff): We discussed recent news reporting around a faculty member's travel reimbursements. The University is assessing the situation and looking at the budget approval process for possible changes. Committee members expressed interest in these changes, and Reka suggested to start with Dan Warren and Joan Thompson for such a discussion.
- V) New Items
 - A) State Block Grant History and Research Forecast (Reka): Reka shared information the University has compiled on the history of the state block grant and the forecast for research funding given changes occurring in the Federal Government. Reka reported that UConn may lose up to \$200M in federal dollars for 2025, and UConn Health may lose up to \$95M. In 2026, we may jointly lose another \$200M. We discussed the effects the current situation is having on offers for incoming graduate students. This process has occurred through conversations between the Graduate School, Deans, and Department Heads.
 - B) Fund Balances (Reka): Reka presented information on current fund balances, including where they exist and what restrictions affect which funds. These funds are approximately \$500M across UConn and UCH, including approximately \$164M for Operating, \$218M for Capital, and \$54M for Debt Service. They are about evenly split between UConn and UConn Health. Unrestricted funds are \$436M of this, although much of this funding is already committed to projects or represent attempts to achieve recommendations by the Board of Trustees for cash on hand reserves. We engaged in a robust discussion of these figures.