

Notes from a Meeting  
of Members of the Budget Committee and the Athletics Committee  
of the IUSB Academic Senate  
December 17, 2020

Present: from the Budget Committee -- Vishal Bindroo, Jerry Hinnefeld, Christian Martinez  
from the Athletics Committee -- Cati Hebert-Annis, Maryann Oake, Brent Newcomb, Tony Randles  
Also present: Steve Bruce, Director of Athletics

Members present introduced themselves.

Jerry Hinnefeld, co-chair of the Budget Committee, paraphrased two requests that had come to the Budget Committee in an email from Samaneh Torkzadeh, chair of the Athletics Committee:

- 1) Might the Budget Committee advocate for an additional \$15k for the Women's Soccer budget?
- 2) Would the Budget Committee support base budgeting of athletics, as opposed to relying on Student Activity Fees?

*Regarding item 1:* Steve Bruce explained that the budget of \$70k for the new Women's Soccer program had not included funding for benefits associated with the coach's salary, so only half the intended \$30k for supplies and expenses ended up in the budget. This is why an additional \$15k is needed in this budget.

Jerry explained that the Budget Committee does not make such specific requests for funding, and this year will also not have a formal opportunity, e.g. in budget hearings, to comment on such requests from budget managers. The athletics program will have to make this request directly to the Chancellor.

*Regarding item 2:* Jerry described where athletics program budgets reside, specifically in "Designated Funds" accounts (so-called "23" accounts) and not in General Fund accounts. These accounts are funded by transfers in from other accounts, primarily a General Fund account under the control of the Chancellor, in the amount of ~850k, and Student Activity Fees, controlled by the SGA, in the amount of ~110k. *(Note added in proof – The general fund support, about \$824k this year, comes from account 0755509 Student Relations, which is in the General Administration RC.)*

So, athletics budgets are already (mostly) base-budgeted.

*Other points of discussion:*

Steve pointed out that when the campus had only two or three varsity sports and relatively robust enrollment, it was possible to fund athletics primarily with Student Activity Fees. Now the campus has 12 varsity sports and lower enrollment, so Student Activity Fees are no longer the primary funding source.

Jerry said the argument is often made that sports programs pay for themselves, since the student-athletes would not be at this campus, paying tuition and fees, were it not for the opportunity to participate in their sport. Steve said there are about 160 students participating in varsity sports at IUSB, and very few of them receive any athletic scholarship support.

Christian Martinez, this year's SGA Treasurer, described his understanding of the history of SGA positions on the use of Student Activity Fees, specifically a trend in recent years to reduce or eliminate

funding for programs that serve only a small portion of the student population, e.g. the formal Child Care Center and varsity athletics programs. Jerry indicated he had the same understanding.

Christian asked Coach Bruce whether the soccer goals the SGA had agreed to fund the previous year were in fact funded by the SGA, since he had not seen those expenses on their Financial Monthly Statements. Steve said he would check on that.

Christian also pointed out that Coach Bruce could request the additional \$15k needed for Women's Soccer this year through the Student Activity Fee process, which will be initiated soon; although there is not guarantee the SAF Budget Committee will provide the funding.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry Hinnefeld