

Regent report (2/18/21)

TRS concerns and the President's response.

- Query about best way to secure accurate information to facilitate shared governance.

February 25<sup>th</sup> Work session has been cancelled. The Next BOR meeting will be the March 25<sup>th</sup> Audit Committee and Quarterly meeting.

Updates:

- **OVC shake-up:** Jacksonville State and ECU are leaving the OVC to join ASUN
  - OVC shrinking from 12 to 10 members
  - According to the President, this shift will not adversely affect out athletic finances because the two schools were "football predominate" and we may now get more of the pooled money
    - If "right-sizing" in athletics conference is helping, should we do more?
- **Stimulus funding:** "in December 2020 additional federal legislation was passed that provided us an additional ~ \$8 million" (President's email to BOR, dated 2/12/21)
  - This funding is **in addition** to the ~\$6 million MSU received in April as a result of the CARES act
  - The added income will require a budget amendment (BOR policy: "if we have an increase in revenues/expenses greater than 5%" the President "will notify the Board of such and outline the funds." [President's email to BOR, dated 2/12/21])
  - General categorical use of funds, as outlined in the email (important notes—usage was "guided" by the strategic plan, involves most non-recurring expenses, and the figures are rounded):
    - Student Scholarships (above what has been noted above): \$1.3 million
    - Recruitment/Mkt./New Website: \$540k
    - Classroom Upgrades/Instruction: \$900k
    - Health Care Offsets for Employees-Calendar Year 2022 Plan: \$600k
    - General Facility Upgrades/Deferred Maintenance: \$1.08 million
    - Residence Hall Upgrades: \$2.295 million
    - Student Services: \$120k
    - Employee Computer and Student Computer Lab Upgrades: \$350k
    - Additional Debt Reduction Payment: \$400k
    - Contingency (savings): \$500k
  - If BOR members "have any strong objections to the general usage of these funds" they are to let the President know.

**General Question for Senate re: info, shared governance, and funding:** How would faculty like me to proceed re: "Mkt./New"? The BOR knows about new admin hire but campus has yet to be introduced to the occupant of a new position whose base salary is higher than the entire pool set aside to address compression in faculty ranks.