

**William Paterson University Faculty Senate Councils
Year-End Report
Academic Year 2024-2025**

1. Council: Senate Budget & Planning Council

2. Council Members: James Alford; A. Gerri Budd; Mariel Read Essner; David Hack; Rajiv Kashyap; Kirsten Loewrigkeit; Judy Matthew; Lillian Luisa Milanes.

3. Council Charges and Summary of Activities:

a) Standing Charges

1. Recommend University budget policy and overall direction.
2. Advise and prioritize in matters related to institutional planning and finance.
3. Examine and review the institution's proposed budget.
4. Work with the administration in resolving fiscal concerns.

b) 2024-2025 Summary of Activities

The Council considered two different models for the creation of its recommended manual, and ways to become an informational resource for other Councils and possibly Department Chairs. However, these endeavors were determined to be subordinate to the need for clarification of the Council's core function. While the Council remained unable to establish ways to engage in the budgeting cycle, the question of the Council's effectiveness remained of paramount concern.

It was proposed that future discussions related to the budget and strategic investments adopt a Q&A style, and dedicated time be set aside for questions during these sessions. It was further proposed that the Council reach out to collect questions from across departments, to act as a central channel to present questions and follow up on Enrollment Forum presentations. This approach is intended to be asynchronous and allow time for research and informed responses. Any unresolved items would be addressed in subsequent meetings, and intended as one way to preserve the Council's influence.

2) Recommended Charges for the Next Academic Year:

It is recommended that the priority charges for 2024-2025 be as follows:

1. Advise the administration in planning the proposed budget for each fiscal year.
2. Work with the Faculty Senate to strengthen the effectiveness of the Council.

3. Serve as a central channel to present questions and follow up on Enrollment Forum presentations.

3) Please provide suggestions for how the council can be better utilized in the next year:

The Council could be of greater use to the University if it had a recognized role, however formal, in the budget process.