

Senate Budget Restructuring and Reallocation Committee update 2/28

The SBRRRC received ten budget-related comments submitted through the University Senate's [Feedback and Suggestions website](#) this past week. These comments and our responses are posted at the University Senate [Budget Information page](#). These included cost-saving ideas such as doing away with UND cell phone plans and aligning curriculum better across programs. Questions also were posed about doing a better job bringing students into the discussion, getting a better idea about the proposed marketing plan, and getting back some money used to help the Med school build its new home.

Here are some other observations from our latest meeting:

- Recommendations on voluntary separations and phased retirements will be forwarded from the Deans to the VPAA this week. This is an important step toward solidifying one of the key variables in the budget reduction process.
- The Deans are expected to submit their latest budget reduction narrative to the VPAA by Friday of this week.
- The three-year savings from the 2016 voluntary separations will result in approximately \$7M in savings, some of which have already been realized. This is being factored in to the current budget reduction process.
- Though it seems like the university is hemorrhaging faculty and staff, the VPAA assures us that the number of faculty positions has remained constant for the past ten years. He further assured us that the current moratorium on tenure-track hires will resolve once the budget situation stabilizes again.

We want to keep hearing from you, so please send us your comments through the University Senate's Feedback and Suggestions website at <http://und.edu/university-senate/feedback.cfm>. or by contacting any member of the SBRRRC directly.

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