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Release of Summer Incentive Money to Departments

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Senate Executive Committee Request for Information

Release of Summer Incentive Money to Departments

Submitted by: Christopher Brown

9/28/2018

Question(s):

Why have departments not yet been informed about the amount of summer incentive money that will be forthcoming to their departmental budgets? When will this information be made available?

Rationale:

Multiple departments across colleges have reported that they have not been informed about any summer incentive money that will be forthcoming to department budgets. Usually, this information is made available to departments in August. Summer incentive money is a crucial resource for departments to support faculty and student travel to conferences. Typically, faculty and students must apply to conferences many months in advance. The delay in knowing the summer incentive budget is causing uncertainty for faculty and students facing approaching deadlines to apply for conferences or to pay conference registration fees or to pay for airfare. Knowing how much summer incentive money is available and when it will be released will help faculty and students better plan their professional travel. In addition, uncertainty about the budget has cause some departments to postpone the scheduling of 2019 summer term courses. This issue has particularly impacted those colleges who were not fully funded for this academic year.

Response:

10/1/2018: From Carl Reiber, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs: A large percentage of the summer incentive money will be dispersed in the next two weeks based on the funds remaining after instruction cost and based primarily on SCH generated by each college. As for travel funds, each college and department determines how these funds will be distributed.