

The University Budget and It's Consequences

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EVOKE

About the Ethnographer

Our group is composed of individuals from three different academic departments on campus and we feel that this allows us to gather diverse opinions and points of view on this topic. For example, Brad Werner, a senior in ACES, has been directly impacted by the budget cuts. Academic advisors in the ACES department have been reduced and competition for classes needed to complete the university's graduation requirements has increased as available classes and faculty have decreased. In like manner, Kai Yeen Wong, an electrical engineering major pursuing a business minor, has also experienced personally the effects of restricted enrollment as he pursues to complete his minor requirements. John Vander Laan has noticed that many major building renovations have not been successfully completed, particularly in buildings such as Lincoln Hall. Combined, we feel that this issue is compounding itself and that it will not be long before the overall quality of education on this campus will be compromised. Therefore, we wish to pursue a solution to the problem and make the issue transparent for all students on this campus.

EXPLORE

Question

What questions is your inquiry contingent upon?

By showing the effects of budget cuts on several departments and services offered by the university, we hope to make this issue a more hotly debated topic amongst students and student organizations in general. Along the way, we hope to answer several key questions:

- Does the budget affect admission standards?
- How does it affect the faculty?
- Do reduced revenues affect the quality of services/education?

Plan

How will you go about answering your inquiry?

Since we plan to target three main areas within the budget, we decided to break up the workload by delegating responsibility for each of these areas to the group member most associated/interested in that specific area. Brad will be analyzing how academic departments/student services are affected, Kai Yeen will analyze admissions, and John will investigate building operations. In conjunction with our in-class conferences, the group plans to meet on Tuesday and Thursday nights to collaborate and discuss what progress each member is making and what complications have arisen.

OBSERVE

What observations, or findings are you encountering in your research?

Files:

[Group 5 Bibliography.doc](#) (Tue 04/18/2006 23:50)

DISCUSS

Discuss your inquiry, taking care to separate speculation from fact or data

Files:

[BTW 250-Final Project.doc](#) (Sun 04/30/2006 16:36)

[BTW 250 Rough Draft editted.doc](#) (Sun 04/23/2006 22:58)

REFLECT

Link

Connect with other resources and materials.

US Department of Education website:

<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml>

Implications

Could your findings have broader implications beyond this inquiry?

The effect of the findings of our research not only affects the student of our Univeristy but it affects all the students in the US overall. Budget cuts have been common in order to keep low costs and as a result, students are paying more for less. We would like to evoke awareness in all students about this matter and hopefully, a way that would benefit both parties would be found.