State University of New York at New Paltz

Summary of Ground Rules and Constraints

Ground Rules

1. Investment must directly support and enhance College Vision Points and unit mission and goals.
2. We must focus on our core mission: educating students.
3. A commitment to New Paltz’s quality and reputation must drive our decisions.
4. We must maintain our forward momentum.
5. We must be willing to invest for the long-term health of the institution, even if doing so necessitates some uncomfortable change.
6. We will seek opportunity to share resources, including staffing and equipment, to achieve efficiencies across unit lines.
7. We will seek to leverage technology.
8. We will implement the remaining elements of the 2010-11 $6.3M reduction plan.
9. Proposed actions must be assessed in terms of their impact on the state-appropriated operating budget, i.e., any new revenue source should provide net income, after accounting for all costs.
10. SUNY and state expectations require that incremental tuition revenue be used to enhance instruction and student access.
11. Communication of and transparency in our process is implied and expected.
12. Our decision-making process must be thoughtful, consistent, and aligned with our mission.

Constraints

1. We must comply with legal, policy, and contractual obligations.
2. We must adhere to our budget schedule.
3. We must meet our enrollment targets primarily by sustaining undergraduate enrollments and increasing graduate enrollments.
4. We must maintain an appropriate level of reserves, as measured by SUNY policy.
5. Sabbaticals, faculty searches, term reappointments, and promotion and tenure decisions must still occur according to schedule.
6. One-time money should be used only for one-time expenses, including investment to initiate new programs and support program growth.
7. Bonded construction funds cannot be used for operational expenses.