Bronco Budget 2.0

Boise State University will implement a new budget model that aligns with the University’s continuing transformation into a metropolitan research university of distinction operating under an emerging model for higher education that clearly shows the link between the university enterprise, healthy citizens, meaningful careers and Idaho’s economy. The new budget model is intended to empower academic units with the benefit and responsibility of greater financial stewardship while maintaining at its core Boise State University’s shared purpose and tradition of innovation. The new budget model will reflect Boise State University’s characteristics of spirited optimism, transformative thinking, principled action and responsible risk taking while promoting an environment that is creative, flexible, collaborative and empowering.

The new budget model will be designed to support the University’s mission.

**Boise State University Mission**

**Boise State University is a public, metropolitan research university providing leadership in academics, research and civic engagement. The university offers an array of undergraduate degrees and experiences that foster student success, lifelong learning, community engagement, innovation and creativity. Research, creative activity and graduate programs, including select doctoral degrees, advance new knowledge and benefit the community, the state and the nation. The university is an integral part of its metropolitan environment and is engaged in its economic vitality, policy issues, professional and continuing education programming, and cultural enrichment.**

**Background and Rationale**

Boise State University has undergone a dramatic transformation over the past decade with unrivaled growth and development into a metropolitan research university of distinction. In the current higher education environment, the University’s incremental budget model is financially unsustainable, impedes innovation and cannot support Boise State University’s continued growth and aspirations. In particular, the current incremental budget model:

* provides little, if any, incremental new funds for investments;
* is historically-based rather than aligned with current activity;
* requires a patchwork of agreements and policies to support any incentives for innovation, creativity and revenue generation;
* focuses on current year appropriated funds which complicates multi-year planning and provides a limited view of the overall resources available to a unit; and
* is difficult to explain and communicate creating challenges with clarity and transparency.

This is a significant and complex undertaking that, over time, will support fundamental changes across the University. The University recognizes that in order to be successful in this effort, it will be critical to develop appropriate reporting and analysis tools, systems and training as an essential part of this initiative.

**Guiding Principles**

The model should:

* Promote aspirational goals and a shared purpose
* Deliver transparency, clarity and predictability
* Provide incentives that promote excellence, academic quality and financial sustainability throughout the university
* Encourage innovation and entrepreneurship by assuring direct benefits to units willing to engage in responsible risk taking
* Foster interdisciplinary scholarly and teaching activity
* Provide sufficient resources to support University-wide strategic initiatives
* Allow for informed and forward looking decision-making
* Promote efficient and effective services