

RCM 5 Year Review: Initial Hearings

Hearing 10: Staff Councils

February 10, 2005

Administrative Representatives: Candace Corvey, Leigh Anne Melanson, David Proulx.

Background: Candace Corvey provided background, context, and described the format of the hearing. Participants asked for a brief overview of RCM since many did not understand the principles. David Proulx went through the RCM slides to provide the group an overview of how RCM works. Candace invited Council members to attend the Open Forum scheduled on February 24.

Questions and Comments from Participants:

- With the cap in enrollment, there seem to be competition between the units. Revenues are shifting among the units.
- The system seems to make it difficult for a unit to deal with enrollment downturns. There should be something in the model that helps a unit that might be experiencing low tuition revenue.
- Facility charges do not seem consistent with RCM principles. For example: renovations and upgrades.
- Units that are central to the University and count on assessments do not have opportunities to generate revenue for new equipment.
- People's budgets remain the same even when they do not spend all their money.
- Units cannot go to donors without Foundation approval. How do units raise funds?
- Is the outsourcing decision part of RCM?
- I hope the practice of charging square footage fees is being considered for modification. The (unfair) charging square footage fees to "high tunnels" (plastic covered metal hoops under which we grow plants) at the farm has resulted in nearly stopping an important, productive area of research. Many of the tunnels have been removed as a result, and more will go soon. Unfair for an unheated structure with no electricity, snow removal, no plumbing, etc.
- What can be done to focus camaraderie and community while allocation unit responsibility.
- Who/what departments aren't operating using RCM and why not?
- How does IDC on grants related to allocated expenses?
- Under "RCM principles" what (examples vs complete lists are ok) are they:
 - "credible governance mechanisms, and
 - rules