1. FY21 Budget Book: Link

2. OHIO Budgeting 1010 PPT – John Day
This presentation is intended to provide a high-level overview of the Athens budget for members of the Budget Study Group, Budget Planning Council and other stakeholders with an interest in learning more about the budget.
The data supporting this presentation matches the information in the FY21 Budget book which can be found here: https://www.ohio.edu/finance/budget/budget-book
The budget for the entire university can be broken down into four major areas. Each area has a different mission and operates on different revenue streams. These four areas are:

1) The Athens Budget—this budget is the main budget that supports activity on the Athens campus and is supported by the tuition, fees and state subsidy associated with the courses that are taught on the Athens Main Campus and E-campus activity originating in the Athens colleges along with the restricted revenues associated with funded research and gifts.

2) Auxiliaries—this budget area is associated with auxiliary operations that are designed to operate on their own separate funding sources. The largest auxiliaries are housing and dining but include others like parking and printing. Athletics is included in this group but it has a mixed budget with part funded with its own revenue but it also gets funding from the Athens budget—the term “supported auxiliary” is some times used to describe this structure.

3) Regional Campuses—this is the budget for the five regional campuses. These units have separate tuition rates and their activity generates state subsidy. The One OHIO initiative will start to merge some aspects of regional activity into the Athens colleges so some additional interconnections are likely between the Athens and Regional budgets in the future.

4) Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (HCOM)—like regional campuses, the medical school has its own tuition rate. It receives a separate subsidy allocation from the state.

While these budgets are separate, there are interactions that take place between the Athens Budget and the other three areas since those areas are served by the administrative structure in Athens and some of their services (human resources, payroll, accounting, budget, etc.) are provided by Athens units. Overhead payments known as a “Contribution Margin” are made into the Athens budget to reflect this.
The relative sizes of the four major budget areas can be seen here. The largest area is the Athens budget which is over $441M and 65% of the overall $675M budget.

In FY21, there is also a mix of funding and expenses directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic but those are not included in this view since it is not part of the ongoing base university budget.

This view does not include the OU Foundation or Capital budgets. The Foundation is a separate organization with its own governing board, so its budget is not part of the annual budget process. The Capital budget is a separate allocation from the state which is restricted to large building projects. Those funds, therefore, cannot be spent on other things like salaries or travel.

There are still interactions between these other two budgets and the main university budget. For example, interest from the endowment of the Foundation supports activities (scholarships, professorships, etc.) in the university budget. In addition, there are impacts to the university budget from capital projects. While the funds to construct a building are in the capital budget, the cost to operate the building will end up in the university budget. In addition, not all building activity occurs in the capital budget. For example, the Ping Center and Baker University Center were funded by bonds that are paid off by additional student fees. Projects like this as well deferred maintenance projects often do impact the main university budget and the university has recently created a strategy to use debt for building projects and deferred maintenance since the funds from the state are not sufficient to cover all of our renovation needs. Look for information about the Century Bond to learn more about this deferred maintenance strategy.
A budget is basically a plan for matching incoming funding or “revenue” to ongoing expenses and balancing those two sides of the equation.

This chart shows the major categories of revenue bringing funding in to support our operations. These categories include Tuition, Fees and Room and board from our undergraduate, regional, graduate and medical students. Academic activity associated with those students also brings in state support.

The remaining 25% of our revenue comes in from sales -8.3% (e.g. clinic revenue, royalties, special contracts, etc.), private support in the form of endowment proceeds and gifts (8%) and grant activity (7.4%). This reinforces the idea that we are an academic institution that is supported by student enrollment which means that changes in enrollment have a major impact on the budget.
To further break down the revenues from tuition, and fees, this chart separates the amount for Room & Board Fee that go to Auxiliaries from tuition revenue.

Tuition revenue is broken down by revenues from undergraduate students (Athens and Regional Campuses) and graduate students (Athens and HCOM).

Further note that the data in this chart shows “net” tuition which means that undergraduate financial aid is subtracted from the undergraduate tuition total and graduate waivers are subtracted from the graduate revenue.

The pandemic has had a negative impact on revenues from undergraduate students (-$46M) and room & board (-$19M).

From this presentation it is easy to see that most of our revenue comes from our undergraduate activity. This makes sense given that we have much larger numbers of undergraduate students compared to graduate.
The second largest source of revenue is state subsidy. The state utilizes what is known as a performance-based funding model for non-medical subsidy. Our support is based on course completions (passing) and degree completions. Over half of our funding is associated with degrees (the 51% plus almost 60% of the Doctoral SSI) which means there is a delay between academic activity and the resulting funding.

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The second largest source of revenue is state subsidy. The state utilizes what is known as a performance-based funding where universities receive funding based on course completions and degree completions. This means that a student must successfully pass a course for those credits to generate subsidy. In addition, we do not receive the degree portion until the student successfully completes the degree. Notice that the amount we get is higher for the degrees as opposed to completions. This is a signal from the state that they want to incent universities to focus on helping student reach the finish line of successfully getting their degree.

State subsidy is earned for the completions and degrees from students that are Ohio residents at the undergraduate level. Out-of-state and international undergraduate students do not generate subsidy. This is why the university charges a non-resident fee to these students – basically to substitute for the lack of state support.

At the masters and doctoral level, subsidy is earned on the vast majority of graduate students. This is why the non-resident fee is typically waived for graduate students on waivers and why the nonresident fee is low for off-campus graduate programs.

There are many other intricacies associated with how subsidy is allocated for multiple degrees, completion programs, transfer students and other circumstances that are beyond the level of this presentation.
Since a large part of our subsidy is earned when a student gets a degree, there is a delay between when we have students in our courses and when we get the revenue associated with that activity. This chart illustrates that concept. The black line shows a projection for how much of the state-wide enrollment is associated with OHIO. Our share of course completion revenue tracks close to enrollment illustrating that completion subsidy comes in fairly close to time where the students are taking courses. With degree subsidy, we don’t get funding until the student finishes the degree. This means that the degree subsidy lags behind the associated enrollment. As illustrated in the chart a downturn in enrollment takes several years to show up in degree subsidy. Similarly, when enrollment increases, it takes several years for the increased funding to be available.

There are other complexities in terms of the timing of subsidy such as the one-year lag between activity and when it is reported, and activity being averaged over three years – complete understanding requires a more detailed coverage of this topic which is beyond the scope of this presentation.
The computation of subsidy earnings is extremely complex but here is a brief overview.

Subsidy calculations are based on Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) students which is the completion of 30 credit hours. The state recognizes that there are different costs for producing different FTEs depending on discipline and level (general education, undergraduate and masters). To reflect these differences, 22 cost models (referred to as the New Taxonomy) each containing a different mix of disciplines and courses are created. These models are grouped by discipline area: Arts and Humanities (AH); Business, Education and Social Science (BES) and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and numbered with 1 indicating introductory, general education courses in those disciplines and the highest level (shaded) indicating masters-level courses. These cost models are shown at the left with our earned revenue and associated FTE production in each model. The fourth column shows the amount of revenue we received per FTE. This is a derived number based on our projected earnings this past year – the actual amount earned will vary but this gives you a rough estimate of the amount and an illustration of the magnitude of the differences.

These weights for courses at different levels also influence degree completions since the subsidy for a degree is actually based on degree credits which are collections of courses taken to complete a degree. Degrees include general education as well as major courses so the total cost of a degree is the cost of the various courses that go into that degree. Degree subsidy is done this way to handle situations like transfers or programs like degree completion where a student completes a bachelor’s on top of an associate degree.

A separate allocation is given for doctoral FTE production (as well as a separate calculation for doctoral degrees) but this component is capped meaning that if we increase our FTE, we will get no additional funding. This allocation is associated with an FTE target established in the late 1990s and we must maintain our production up to at least 85% of that target.
The remaining major areas of funding (external sales, endowment/gift and grants) are more straightforward with each contributing 6%-9% of our funding. One term typically used for grants and some gift/endowment is “restricted.” A restricted funding source can only be used for a specific purpose. The funds for a grant are restricted to the purpose of that grant and can only be spent for that. The funds cannot be repurposed to pay for something else within the university. Some grants (typically certain federal grants) allow the university to charge an overhead fee called Facilities & Administrative (F&A) cost recovery. This recognizes that the university has costs to support the infrastructure to support research – lab facilities, accounting, etc. This overhead is earned as the dollars are spent on grant activity. Our earnings are around $9M per year. These funds can be spent as the university wishes but we have a formula that splits these funds between the researchers (in research incentive – RI funds), the department/center, the college and the VP Research and we tend to invest these funds back into research activity.
When looking at the budget for a college, the revenues that will be listed will follow this general budget model.

A college has two primary sources of revenue, direct revenues that flow to the college (Unit Net Revenue) and a share of revenues that are held centrally (Spending Authorization).

Unit Net Revenue represents areas where colleges have an incentive to increase activity in order to increase their resources. To the extent that colleges have been able to diversify their activity in these areas, they need less of the revenue coming in from centrally held revenues. Collectively college budgets are built with $212.6M (60%) coming from unit net revenue and $139.3M from revenues flowing centrally.

Colleges receive the tuition and fees from their graduate programs. Any tuition waivers the college provides to graduate students are subtracted from this revenue. For many colleges, graduate programs (particularly those in Athens) are structured with students having a graduate assistantship that provides a tuition waiver in exchange for work linked to teaching, research and/or administrative service. In these programs, there will not be much net graduate tuition flowing to the college. Some colleges have off-campus graduate programs (online or in locations like Dublin or a regional campus) where students pay tuition and net revenues are a much larger part of the revenues flowing to the college.

In addition to graduate program tuition, tuition from undergraduate online programs running through eCampus also flow to the college. The remaining revenue flows coming to colleges include course fees (primarily only for graduate courses, aviation, study away and certifications under the tuition guarantee), external sales, grants and associated F&A and gits.

In the Allocation Model box, SSI from Athens undergraduate and graduate programs and the net tuition from Athens undergraduate ($270.8M) are pooled centrally and used to support central expenses ($131.5M) and college budgets ($139.3M – 51.4%) through what are called Spending Authorizations.
As this term implies, units are authorized to budget and spend these funds during the year. This is different from Unit Net Revenue which a college forecasts as part of the budget process. It is expected that if this forecast is not realized, the college will need to adjust its spending to keep their budget in balance.
The overall flow of central revenues to the colleges, varies by college with Arts & Sciences getting the largest allocation. Looking closely at the colleges shown, you might note that the College of Health Sciences and Professions is not listed. This is because the amount of Unit Direct Revenue flowing to that college more than covers their entire budget. A major part of this is the tuition revenue that results from the RN-to-BSN online program plus various off-campus graduate programs. In fact, this college actually contributes over $1M centrally in the form of a Contribution Margin similar to HCOM and Regional campuses.
In addition to the different amount of spending authorization flowing to each college, there is a very different ratio between the portion of the units budget supported by Unit Direct Revenue and Spending Authorization. Several colleges have less than 50% of their budget coming from the central spending authorization.

For example, Business is able to generate 57% of its budget from off-campus professional graduate programs and therefore needs a lower spending authorization. Engineering has a large percentage of the budget coming from grants but these are restricted so its dependance on its spending authorization is actually higher if only its unrestricted operating budget were considered. The Voinovich school similarly has a very large part of its budget coming from non-operating sources – grants and state appropriations. Other colleges are much more closely dependent on their undergraduate activity and therefore have a budget that comes mostly from the spending authorization – Arts & Sciences, Communication and Fine Arts.

Some units have spending authorizations in excess of their budget because of other sources flowing into the budget – The Honors percentage is more than 100% because it transfers funds out of its budget to cover tutorials for and University college is higher because part of its revenue is transferred out for learning communities.
This is the way all the revenue sources just discussed appear on the budget presented in Section 2.4 of the budget book. You can see the various sources discussed previously down the left.

Here are some things to note

The red box shows the totals for the operating budget. There are columns to the right of this but these are not part of the operating budget. Several numbers are called out on this slide to illustrate what falls into this category. For example the 24.7M at the top under State Appropriations is the state capital funding from the state. As stated in the beginning, these funds are one-time funds to be used only for construction and cannot be used for other purposes. Thus, they are not part of the normal operating budget. Similarly, near the bottom is 31.3M listed under Endowment Distributions. This is a negative number indicating that these funds are coming into the budget from the OU Foundation – this is the interest earned off the endowment and it funds the 31.3M inside the red box which is the total support within the budget from the endowment. A final example is the 54.8M listed under Investment Income. This is the market value of the investment of our reserves in the market. This represents the current value of this investment (sort of like the value of your 401K retirement fund) but the only way to realize this funding would be to take the investment out of the market so it is not available for operating.

Some of the other things discussed earlier are also called out on this slide.

Note that HCOM is rolled up into the first column with the rest of the Athens activity for this high-level consolidation

Under auxiliaries, the scholarship entry of 18M represents 9M in Athletic scholarships and contributions from housing and dining to support central scholarships

As mentioned earlier, the COVID-19 Budget column represents funding coming in from the CARES act to offset some of our losses from the pandemic.

The Spending Authorization shows funding going to auxiliaries (17.9M) as part of their budget – The reserves column shows the inflow of revenues into the Strategic Opportunity Reserve (SOR) that funds various expenses in the other columns. This column shows that we hold back 2% of our projected SSI and undergraduate tuition. This creates a buffer in case we do not meet the enrollment projection that drives these revenues and if we hit our target, these funds are accumulated to make investments over time. SOR also receives part of the returns on our investment income

In the Central & Admin Operations column you can see how SSI from the Athens undergraduate SSI and tuition are listed. In the Spending Authorization row, you can see how those revenues flow to colleges and Auxiliaries (this is a flow to athletics and is why it is known as a “supported auxiliary”) and a smaller amount to regional campuses and reserves. Some of this revenue stays within this column to support those central operations and

This $315M of UG tuition and SSI are held centrally. This funds Spending Authorizations for central units and the rest (136M) goes to the other areas as shown here.

SII and UG tuition revenues are held centrally to support Spending Authorizations for central units and the rest is distributed to other areas as shown here.

Some grants, sales and endowment directly support admin areas

Support from the Endowment

Market Value of Investments
other revenues from grants, endowments and internal/external sales also support these budgets.
In addition to revenues, the other major part of a budget is expenditures—basically the things on which we spend the incoming funding. This chart gives you a high-level view of the major expenditure categories.

The principle & interest category is the amount we have to spend each year to pay for our debt. While the university has occasionally taken out debt for major projects (the convocation center, baker center, the IT network, etc.) we have implemented a major effort to invest in our deferred maintenance issues through the creation of the Century Bond. While beyond the scope of this presentation, the Century bond basically involves adding $13M to the operating budget to service debt that is being used to pay for ongoing projects to address deferred maintenance issues like replacement of windows, roofs, HVAC, plumbing, etc. since the state capital funding is not sufficient to handle all these costs and without investment we were in danger of falling further behind in maintaining our facilities to the point were we were experiencing building failures like what happened with Lindley a few years ago. This is a constant pressure on our budget driven by the fact that we are a residential campus which means a significant amount of our cost will always be related to facilities. With increases in this area of the budget, there are fewer dollars to go to other parts of the budget such as people.

This chart also shows that with salary and benefit costs, the majority (65%) of our budget is related to people. Being a residential campus also means that we have a large need for people to run this type of operation.

The final category for Supplies & Services which includes travel and general non-personnel costs and is about 25% of the budget
Another way to divide up expenditures is by the units that are funded. This chart shows the major administrative units and the amount of spending authorizations (SSI and tuition) that goes into their budgets. The full budgets are larger than this since these units bring in another $65M in other revenues to pay for some of their costs.

The largest unit is Operations & Maintenance at 18% and another 16% is related to debt service which combined again illustrate that a large part (34%) of our administrative costs is related to space driven by the residential nature of our campus.
To provide a rough idea of the relative size of the various academic units, this chart shows the direct expense budget for each college plus regional campuses and HCOM. The largest unit is HCOM, followed by Arts & Sciences and then the regional campuses. Business, Engineering and Health Sciences are similar in size at around 10% of the total.
This shows that high level summary of expenditures from section 2.4 of the budget book. The major expenditure categories are shown in the left column. Two new concepts illustrated here are highlighted. First the Contribution Margin row shows flows (basically overhead payments) from the colleges (HCOM and Health Sciences), regional campuses and auxiliaries flow into the Central Admin & Operations columns to show how these support some of the central costs.

The other highlighted area is the Capital Cost Allocation. This shows that the External Debt on lines 22 and 23 get represented in the operating budget as a flow of charges to the colleges and auxiliaries that “pay for” the debt costs under central administration and operations.
The other major portion of the budget in addition to revenue and expenditures that is often involved in balancing the budget is the use of reserves. The university keeps pools of funds for various purposes. For example, the university is required to maintain reverses for things like extraordinary benefits claims and worker’s compensation. There are other reverses within the auxiliaries where funds are accumulated over several years to pay for major dorm renovations.

There is also a central reserve called the Strategic Opportunity Reserve (SOR) that is used to make investments in strategic priorities and to help buffer unexpected swings in enrollment. This reserve is built by using various sources such as investment income and by taking the projection for tuition and subsidy revenue and holding back 2% to create a buffer in case enrollments fall short in a given year. These sources are shown in the graph at the left.

The graph at the right shows some of the major areas of investment of these funds. The table at the top shows that there was about 18M available in SOR as we started FY21 and the plan was to add about 11M to this and spend 9M in the areas shown.
The three major components of the budget – revenues, expenditures and reserves come together to create a balanced budget. Typically revenues are not exactly equal to expenditures in a given year. Transfers are used to move funds to and from various reserves to achieve balance. This table pulls the relevant rows from the budget shown in section 2.4 of the budget book.

Total revenues show up on row 17 and expenditures on row 29. Row 18 shows funding transfers across units. Here you can see 28.6M coming out of reserves to fund various things in colleges and central administration. The total of all these transfers is zero so there is no net effect on the overall budget but there are effects within the individual areas.

When you subtract expenditures from revenues and take the effect of transfers into account, you get the Results of Operations in row 30. Some areas end up with a negative result and the other units are positive with the overall Operating budget at -$12M.

Other transfers occur between units and Plant Funds or Quasi Endowments. Plant Funds is where we take part of the budget in an area for a year and put it into an account for a future renovation all areas do this to some extent. The quasi endowment transfer is where HCOM took funding accumulated in revenues from hospital to support residencies and put that into an endowment to use for that purpose in the future. With a quasi endowment is is possible to reverse this and move the funds back out if necessary some day.

The line for Transfers to (from) Reserve (35) shows how much is put into (taken out of) reserves to balance the budget. In this case expenditures are exceeding the revenues coming in by $25M so that amount is coming out of reserves to balance the budget.

Once the reserve use is accounted for, the Adjusted Net Results in line 37 shows that the budget has been balanced.
This Glossary includes commonly used terms that we will encounter often during the year.
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- **Facilities and Administrative Cost Recovery** - An overhead charge the university can include with a grant (mostly federal grants) to pay for costs of facilities and other infrastructure needed to support research activity.

- **Endowment** - Money set aside to be invested with the intent that interest earned from the investment will be brought into the operating budget to fund various activities. The university endowment is managed by a separate entity called the OU Foundation that has its own governing board.

- **Quasi Endowment** - Operating funds that are set aside by a unit into an endowment that is invested along with the university endowment. The term "quasi" indicates that the funds do not belong to a separate entity and it is possible to bring those funds back and spend them in the future in case of an emergency.