

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL
Minutes of 17 November 2020**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Campus Planning and Finance Council was called to order at 3 p.m. on 17 November 2020, via Webex video conferencing by Valerian Kwigizile, chair.

Roll Call

Members in Attendance: Todd Barkman, Cheryl Bruey, David Dakin, Betty Dennis, Keith Hearit, Lynne Heasley, Valerian Kwigizile, Geoffrey Lindenberg, James Penner, Colleen Scarff, Matthew Screnock (Graduate Student Association), Jan Van Der Kley, Udaya Wagle

Members Absent: Emma Scheller (Western Student Association)

Advisory Members in Attendance: Chris Cheatham

Advisory Members Absent: Tony Proudfoot

Ex Officio Member in Attendance: Osama Abudayyeh

Guests: Nicole Kalmbach, Director of Business Operations for Student Affairs; Marilyn Kritzman, Faculty Senate President

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Agenda

It was moved by Barkman, seconded by Wagle, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

It was moved by Barkman, seconded by Dennis, to approve the 20 October minutes as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Kwigizile reported that the Faculty Senate approved MOA-20/05 at its last meeting. The MOA will go before the administration for approval in 30 days.

Ex Officio Abudayyeh did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representatives

Dakin provided the report of Campus Facility Development which included:

- WMU is working with the State of Michigan on the Dunbar Hall submission. The final document will be ready by 4 December for the lame duck session.
- Students are slated to move into Arcadia Flats on 1 January 2021.

Scarff provided the report of University Budgets which included:

- The 2021 budget is officially booked and posted to GLOW.
- The current fiscal-year budget for 2020-21 reflects a \$70 million cut.
- Both the Strategic Resource Management budget model and the 2021-22 budgeting begin soon.
- The office will track spring enrollment data, with special interest in in-person and online mix of course registrations.

Van Der Kley provided the report of Business and Finance which included:

- The 2019-20 fiscal year has been closed.
- Work has begun on new bond market borrowing for the student center. Market rates look favorable.

- A proposal to for CPFC review is expected in early 2021 to revise the student tuition structure.

Discussion included how online, in-person, out-of-state, and international tuitions will be structured. Examples were provided of standardized lower rate for online freshman/sophomore registrations, non-resident students in-person class higher tuition. And an example of upper level undergraduates having a higher tuition rate than lower level undergraduates taking in-person classes. The complexity is challenging for students and parents to decipher. It is further compounded with differential tuition. It was asked if a rebate on tuition could be offered if conditions improve. Discussion was held.

Cheatham provided the report of the Provost's office Budget and Personnel which included:

- Transition to the new SRM budget model is underway, which includes decentralizing part-time budgets to the college level.
- The town hall will focus on interdisciplinarity, including restructuring so that program align with demographic challenges.

Proudfoot did not provide a Marketing and Strategic Communications report.

Council Subcommittee Report

Dakin provided the report of the Transportation Subcommittee which included:

- The final transportation report is posted to the Facilities website under Campus Planning.
- Parking services has done will with the virtual permits roll out.

Discussion included clarification on how to obtain the virtual permits from the Parking Services website. The parking lot scanners recognize license plates. Students have expressed appreciation of the ease and costs savings of the new system as they can purchase day permits instead of semester permits, and the system is conducive for multiple cars.

Unfinished Business

Abudayyeh put forward charge #11: *Identify approaches and methods used to increase civility and respect in order to create a safe environment both within the Faculty Senate and at the University.* It was questioned what the Faculty Senate Executive Board expects of the council in this charge. The issue has grown beyond a single council. The Executive Board will be asked to review the charge, until such time the council will postpone action. It was moved by Abudayyeh, seconded by Hearit, to postpone charge #11. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Chair Kwigizile put forward charge #2: *Review and report on the Strategic Resource Management budget model implementation.* Work is to be completed in March, but recommendations to the steering committee are postponed until early October. The team has shared modeling with steering committee and advisory group, and the University will be notified of SRM implementation status by 3 December. Details included:

- Change to the revenue rule: state appropriations will be allocated similar to tuition, based on head count. (100% is currently give to the college of instruction.) The state appropriations helps cover the costs of an enrolled student, including advising.
- Logistics and timing: decision to go with a two-year average from prior years, 80% transfer at time of census, 10% transfer at the end of the semester, 10% transfer at the end of the fiscal year after final adjustments to the general ledger.
- Other designated revenue: refinements for Study Abroad, CELSIS, and other similar programs.
- Space: cost associated with shared and unassigned space are more transparent. Some costs shifted during the inventory.
- Process: responsibility units need two to three years of incremental implementation to arrive at optimum funding levels.

Questions included the following:

- How will rewarding colleges on enrollment decision making work? With the changes in state appropriation accounting, WMU needs to give more credit to the college of instruction.
- How is the University participation assessment calculated? It needs to cover general fund assessment for all service units, space, central pool, and will stay constant for three years so colleges can plan. All forms of revenue will go into the assessment.
- How will distribution be managed? Budget reductions were spread evenly across colleges and service units. The changes will be calculating the cost of space and allocating undergraduate tuition revenue. The accounting for auxiliary units and the University College presents unknowns.
- How do unrestricted Foundation funds fit within the budget model? They are not in the budget model, although some portion of unrestricted funds will eventually be added.
- Will appropriations incentivize growth in enrollment? It is expected, but it could be a pitfall that curricular processes must address and/or monitor.
- Can reserves be used to cover budget shortfalls? One-time uses are possible but cannot be planned. A permanent budget should be exclusive of those. Reserves should be considered cash not budget.
- How will subventions change on an annual basis? It is still unknown. The Provost will determine subventions for Academic Affairs. A small group will be examining other universities' subvention protocols.
- Will financial aid keep up with rising tuition? The Steering Committee will make that an annual discussion, with the intent to keep pace with the rate of inflation. It was noted that WMU has not reduced the base with enrollment declines.
- How do online classes at the lower level undergraduate rate hurt the budget? Partly from losing the non-residential versus residential differential.

Chair Kwigizile put forward charge #10: *Identify and address policies, programs, and practices that will ensure considerations of diversity, equity, and inclusion within the Faculty Senate and the University.* It was asked what needs to be done to address the charge, and how is it similar or different from charge #8. The council agreed to combine the two charges and address them at the April council meeting. In anticipation of that discussion in April, it was questioned what policies related to facilities and campus may be affected by different groups differently. Also, how can the council avoid implementing policies in ways that may alienate different constituencies. And, finally how to identify impact of services or resources.

Announcements

Charge #5 will be addressed at the next meeting.

Adjournment

It was moved by Van Der Kley, seconded by Dennis, to adjourn the meeting at 5 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

The Campus Planning and Finance Council will meet next on 8 December 2020 via Webex at 3 p.m.

Approval

Submitted by Lynne Heasley, Secretary

Minutes approved this eighth day of December 2020