

---

**CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL  
Minutes of 16 February 2021****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 16 February, via Webex video conferencing by Valerian Kwigizile, chair.

**Roll Call**

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

**Members Absent:** Emma Scheller

**Advisory Members in Attendance:** Chris Cheatham, Tony Proudfoot

**Ex Officio Member in Attendance:** Osama Abudayyeh

**Recording Secretary:** Lindsey Rossiter, Business and Finance

**Quorum**

A quorum was present.

**Agenda**

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

**Minutes**

It was moved by Lindenberg, seconded by Bruey, to approve the 19 January minutes as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports of Officers**

Chair Kwigizile reported on the Faculty Senate meeting. The plans for distributing the recent stimulus money to students is being finalized. The Provost is forming a Interdisciplinarity committee; it is important to pay close attention to what is going on with this process. The CPFC can have representation on that committee if someone is interested.

Ex Officio Abudayyeh reported that the Provost has asked for senate nominations from every council for representative on the Interdisciplinarity committee. The two nominations that come from CPFC were administrators; however, the Provost would like faculty representation instead.

**Reports of University Representatives**

Dakin did not provide a report, referring to New Business later in the agenda.

Scarff provided the report of University Budgets which included:

- The state has started their budget process for higher education appropriations and the Governor's version came out late last week.
- The 2% increase is one-time money, there is not a base increase in the funding plan.
- The state is concerned with the fiscal year 2023 deficit that is expected and how it will be managed.
- What has been proposed is the first budget version and many versions are expected before it is finalized. In May there will be a conference report. This is the first step in the process and it is yet to be determined where the budget will end up.
- The Governor's version included tuition restraint language. WMU will make a decision regarding tuition based on many factors and not just by what is allowed by the state.

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

- WMU elected to allocate half of the second stimulus package for student financial aid, equaling approximately \$12 million. This allocation is more than the required \$7.7 million.

- There is not a definitive plan for the remaining \$12 million balance, which can be used for the institution. There are requirements on using these funds, similar to the first stimulus package. For instance, these funds can only be used on items that occurred after December 27 when the statute became effective and the usage needs to be COVID-19 pandemic related.
- The guidance is just starting to come out on how to use the money. There is language for lost revenue, which was not included on the first bill. The current interpretation of lost revenue is calculated by the fixed expenses that the institution is still incurring. For example, a resident hall that has a portion of the rooms that are not able to be used because of social distancing. These are fixed costs and are not really equated to revenue.
- There are new grant opportunities that are being considered for Miller Auditorium and WMUK FM. Other possible opportunities are being looked at as well.
- The delayed federal guidance on the stimulus package has delayed the planning for these funds. WMU has applied for a one-year extension to use the stimulus funds.

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

- As of 12 February, enrollment was up 15.7% for beginner applications. Undergraduate admitted applicants are up 14.2%.
- Graduate student master's applications are down 14.6%, with a much smaller pool of applicants. Admitted master's applications are down 11.1%. Doctorial applications are up 4.6% and admitted are up 23% which equates to an increase of 6 admissions.
- Undergraduate applications are doing well. Currently, transiting to yield activities and trying to increase the yield of those students by partnering with Marketing and Strategic Communications.
- Transfer applications are down 10% and transfer admissions are down 17% compared to last year.
- Summer registration has started, but it is too early to look at the numbers.

Proudfoot provided a Marketing and Strategic Communications report which included:

- Marketing and Strategic Communications will be distributing the final installment of the President's "Western's Future Focus." The goal is to help bring clarity to what WMU is working on and how this will impact the campus community. This type of delivery is more effective during these challenging times of COVID-19 pandemic.
- Marketing and Strategic Communications is working with Admissions to improve yield. Some parents are encouraging a "wait and see" approach. Marketing and Strategic Communications is working on putting together four strategies to make students pay attention and let them know that WMU is very interested in them. Examples include a cares package that will be sent with different WMU merchandise. Also, a postcard series, a look book using photos of campus, and a legacy campaign with alumni. For context, WMU has 2,000 students with parents who are alumni.

Discussion included course modality possible effects on admission decisions, changes to modality, directive from the Provost, the direction for the future, and other challenges.

### **Reports of Council Subcommittees**

Dakin did not provide a report of the Transportation Subcommittee.

### **Unfinished Business**

Abudayyeh noted there were no updates to report on 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 moved by Abudayyeh, seconded by Heasley, to postpone charge #11 until further notice. The motion carried unanimously.*

### **New Business**

Dakin put forward Charge #3: *Review and provide input into campus construction projects that are in the various stages of planning. Assess the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on campus construction projects and planning.* Discussion included:

- Arcadia Flats: the budget was \$60 million. The project was completed November 2020, with a move-in date of January 2021. The time lapse video is at [www.wmich.edu/capitalprojects/arcadiaflats](http://www.wmich.edu/capitalprojects/arcadiaflats).

- College of Aviation: renovation and addition is expected to be completed April 2021, with a move-in date of May 2021. The budget is \$20 million.
- The Student Center and Dining Facility: the budget is \$98.9 million, and is expected to be completed June 2022, with an expected move in date of August 2022.
- Dunbar: renovation has restarted. Expected to be completed Fall 2023. The budget is \$42.73 million.
- College of Fine Arts: is looking to expand for storage with a RCVA addition and an art storage addition that will be approximately 35' X 35'.

Discussion included the landscaping replacing buildings, the relocation of the offices, possible updates to Kohrman, and operational processes.

Dakin and Van Der Kley put forward Charge #4: *Review and provide input into financial and operational structure for the Hilltop Village construction project.* Discussion included:

- The charge was developed with the expectation of external partnerships. The relationship with Gilbane and WMU has been severed and WMU has decided not to go forward with a private partnership.
- WMU is still committed to the project. There is not a budget or a timeline yet. The abatement surveys are taking place. Demolition will start, with plans to have the area cleared by the end of September. Construction fencing will be extended from the Student Center and continue down the hill. The Hill Top Village plans will continue with an aggressive schedule of opening in Fall 2024.

#### **Announcements**

No announcements.

#### **Adjournment**

It was moved by Abudayyeh, seconded by Jellies, to adjourn the meeting at 4:08 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Campus Planning and Finance Council will meet next on 16 March 2021 via Webex at 3 p.m.

#### **Approval**

Submitted by Lindsey Rossiter, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved this sixteenth day of March 2021.