

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL
Minutes of 20 September 2011
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: Raja Aravamuthan, Aekam Barot, Cheryl Bruey, David Dakin, Richard Gershon, Harold Glasser, Dean Honsberger, C.R. Krishna-Swamy, Kathleen Langan, Dennis McCrumb, Gail Rouscher, Paul Solomon, Jan Van Der Kley, Gay Walker

Guests: Robert Brown, director of Public Safety; Ann Cox, Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance; James Gilchrist, vice provost for academic operations and chief information officer; Keith Hearit, vice provost for strategic enrollment management; Peter Krawutschke, Faculty Senate president; Lowell Rinker; Sandy Steinbach, associate vice president for business and finance;

Procedural Items

Welcome and Introductions – Rick Gershon

Rick welcomed everyone back and acknowledged Lowell Rinker for his dedication to the Campus Planning and Finance Council. Lowell will be retiring on 30 September.

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Honsberger to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Bruey. Motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes of 17 May 2011

A motion was made by Bruey to approve the minutes of 17 May as presented, seconded by Krishna-Swamy. Motion passed.

Chair's Comments – Rick Gershon

Rick Gershon will be on sabbatical this fall semester. As vice chairperson, Gay Walker will be chairing the October, November and December meetings. Gershon and Van Der Kley toured the campus and looked at the numerous campus signs and discussed an approach to have a uniform look on campus.

Informational/Discussion Items

Enrollment – Keith Hearit, Vice Provost for Strategic Enrollment Management

Keith Hearit reported that there was an increase of 41 students over last year. There was a decline in incoming freshmen for the fall 2011 semester.

Applications to the University increased over last year. There was a 2.4 increase in transfer students and an increase in minority students. International students make up a 10.5 increase and there were 2,639 out of state students. There was a slight decrease in student retention of 1.6.

The enrollment patterns for students are not centrally located in any particular area in Michigan. Hearit was thanked for his presentation.

University General Fund Budget – Dean Honsberger, Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning

Honsberger gave a PowerPoint presentation on the balancing of the 2011-12 University General Fund budget (see www.budget.wmich.edu).

The current make up of the General Fund revenue budget is 70.9% from tuition, 26.3% state appropriation and 2.8% other. Interestingly enough, these figures are almost the exact opposite of the General Fund revenue budget in 1979-80 where tuition was 26.2% and state appropriation was 71.5%.

When President John Dunn and Dean Honsberger presented a very preliminary 2011-12 budget update to the council in early April 2011, a number of budgetary estimates were made including the possibility of a 16.4 million dollar cut from the State, no salary increases to faculty or staff in 2011-12, very limited new budget programmatic increases, the shifting of records initiation fee revenue to the General Fund and a possible 7.1% tuition increase. At that point in time after all of the above proposed financial assumptions were considered, we were still looking at an estimated deficit of approximately 7.8 million dollars.

So, how did the projected 7.8 million dollar deficit get funded thus balancing the General Fund budget? In June 2011, President Dunn presented a balanced estimated General Fund budget to the WMU Board of Trustees. The strategies that were successfully implemented to balance the estimated 2011/12 University General Fund Budget included:

1% estimated enrollment increase which turned out to be mostly funded from increases in non-resident and international enrollments +1,872,900.

Change in tuition block (from 16 credit hours to 15 credit hours) +2,800,000.

Adjust debt service projected expense budget (from 3.8M to 3M) +800,000

University budget reduction +2,414,161

Krawutschke and Gershon both recommended that this 2011-12 budget report needs to be communicated to the faculty.

2011-12 Council Charges – Peter Krawutschke, Faculty Senate President

The 2011-12 council charges were distributed.

General Discussion on Green Space Design Fronting Sangren Hall

This topic will be discussed at next month's meeting to allow David Dakin, director, campus planning, and Peter Strazdas, associate vice president for facilities management, to bring the plans in for discussion.

Other Business

Harold Glasser and Paul Solomon agreed to meet with Jim Thomas, vice president for development and alumni relations, regarding MOA-09/05 Faculty input to and participation in the development and fund raising process.

Campus apartments are up and running and at 100% capacity. Sprau Tower is finished and looks good.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Honsberger to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bruey. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted

AnnMarie Cox
Recording Secretary