

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL
Minutes of Tuesday, 19 March 2013 at 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: Raja Aravamuthan, David Dakin, Richard Gershon, Harold Glasser, Dean Honsberger, C.R. Krishna-Swamy, Kathleen Langan, Glen Langworthy (for Gail Rouscher), David Lemberg, Dennis McCrumb, Paul Solomon, Jan Van Der Kley and Gay Walker

Guests: Judy Gipper, Director, Dining Services; Steve Palmer, Director, Residence Life; Vernon Payne, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs; Wayne Pushie, Director, Facilities and Student Affairs; Janice Quakenbush, Program Manager, Housing and Dining Strategies; Pete Strazdas, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management; Tim Holysz, Director, Landscape Services; Linda Poquette, Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance, and Sandy Steinbach, Associate Vice President for Business and Finance

Procedural Items

Welcome

Council Chair David Lemberg welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Solomon to accept the agenda as presented, supported by Langan. Motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes of 19 February 2013

A motion was made by Honsberger to approve the minutes of 19 February 2013, supported by Walker. Motion passed.

Chair's Comments – David Lemberg

Lemberg apologized for not attending the last meeting. He thanked council members and guests for attending.

Information/Discussion Items

Housing and Dining – Vernon Payne

Payne stated that we are competing with other universities to recruit and retain students and we have to improve WMUs housing and dining facilities. The plan fits in with the University's strategic goals.

Payne gave recent accomplishments such as Bella Vita Café, Bistro 3, Plaza Café, Western View and Flossie's Café. The plans are aligned with facility conditions and they are distinctive so as to differentiate WMU from other universities. Campus surroundings are always considered and Payne provided a map view of WMU Residential Communities. Dining facilities had to be planned with a "wow" factor while always keeping in mind recruitment and retention of students. The new Valley Dining Project is to be completed in 2014 and will enhance campus living, learning and social interaction.

The new dining facility will overlook the pond. Dakin explained that the forest will come right up to the building and the plan is the least invasive. Discussion followed concerning the forest and replacement of the trees. Van Der Kley stated it is the University policy that for every tree taken down, two are planted. Tim Holysz added that Michigan native species will be planted, trees are marked that can be transplanted and reforest of other locations will occur along with additional improvements.

An overview map of the new residence halls may be viewed at www.wmich.edu/students/planning. Payne stated that many public meetings were held for input. Also, Diane Anderson made a presentation to the council. In addition, students were queried about the plan. After questions on redistribution on parking, Payne described the reasons for the current facility plan.

Further discussion followed concerning the value of the large trees. Dakin reported that the architects looked at all plans so as not to eliminate trees and the current site was the best possible solution for the environment. Also, this was the best site for the dining facility to meet the needs of the students.

Lemberg asked for continuous monitoring of the plan with Holysz. Van Der Kley expressed her appreciation for everyone's concern and would like Goldsworth pond to be a signature location.

Office of Sustainability – Harold Glasser

Due to time restraints, Harold Glasser offered to move his presentation to next month.

Faculty Senate Restructuring Committee – Richard Gershon

Every seven years the Faculty Senate reviews its current council and committee structure. The Faculty Senate is establishing a standing committee on the University Strategic Plan. Emails will be sent to each council chair requesting a faculty member from each council to serve on this committee.

Everyone respects Campus Planning and Finance Council but the council would like to react before plans are solidified. Meeting objectives need to be reviewed. In the future, it was agreed that Campus Planning and Finance Council be informed of the open forum meetings on University projects. Enrollment and recruitment are now drivers for decisions along with the academic cycle.

Other Business

No other business.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn by Langan at 4:40 p.m., seconded by Walker.
Motion passed.

Linda Poquette
Recording Secretary