

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL
Minutes of Tuesday, 15 October 2013, at 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: Raja Aravamathan, Cheryl Bauman-Bruey, David Dakin, Kieran Fogarty, Richard Gershon, Harold Glasser, Jamie Gomez, Dean Honsberger, C.R. Krishna-Swamy, Kathleen Langan, Gary Mathews, Dennis McCrumb, William Rantz, Gail Rouscher, Jan Van Der Kley and Gay Walker

Guests: Kathy Beauregard, Director, Intercollegiate Athletics; Jim Gilchrist, Vice Provost for Budget and Personnel and Chief Information Officer; Linda Poquette, Business and Finance; Pete Strazdas, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management; and Patti Van Walbeck, Business and Finance

Procedural Items

Welcome

Interim Chair Raja Aravamathan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Van Der Kley to accept the agenda as presented, supported by Honsberger. Motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes of 17 September 2013

A motion was made by McCrumb to approve the minutes of 17 September 2013, supported by Langan. Motion passed.

Interim Chair's Comments – Raja Aravamathan

Aravamathan thanked members and guests for attending. He asked Van Der Kley to share with the council about the condition of the furniture in the room. Van Der Kley had a discussion with Paul Terzino, director, Bernhard Center, and Diane Anderson, vice president for student affairs, and new furniture has been approved.

Information/Discussion Items

Athletics – Kathy Beauregard

Beauregard provided a presentation on WMU's Division of Intercollegiate Athletics. WMU has been a member of the MAC since 1947, a member of the NCAA Division I, FBS (Football Bowl Subdivision) and sponsors the minimum number of sports required for Division I with 16 varsity sports.

The student athletes continue to perform at a high level academically. All of the 16 varsity sports perform above the NCAA standard. Beauregard gave statistics on the last and current year's successes and noted that a MAC GPA award was received for men's sports.

Analysis and challenges exist going forward including expectation for competitive success and filling the funding gap from what is currently provided and what is needed to remain competitive. There are possibilities for additional funding and WMU Athletics continues with growth of revenues and remains at the top of the MAC in self-generated revenues. Also, with the direction of President John Dunn and the Board of Trustees, WMU is in a new hockey league, the National Collegiate Hockey Conference (NCHC).

Maintenance and improvement of the athletic facilities continue for the safety of our athletes, to stay competitive with our peers and to draw athletes. Work with private donors and administration has brought about improvements such as the new turf in the buildings and on the field, new technology in Lawson and improvement in the soccer program.

After review of the conference realignments and NCAA structure, Beauregard answered questions on the football program, which is on track for the future. Van Der Kley stated the athletes have been good to work with and are respectful. Mathews added that we have the best program in the MAC. In response to a question on the GPA of athletes, this is a high priority and Associate Athletic Director Jeff Stone continues to gather data for the bigger picture regarding the GPAs of athletes.

Action/Discussion Items

Campus Planning – Public Spacing

Anand Sankey, Conn Macomber and Eleonora Philopoulos provided the presentation of what is accomplished in public spacing.

The completed improvements of classrooms were reviewed and this includes improved chalkboards, spaces, public hallways, vestibules and toilet partitions.

Andrea Nickel and Lauren Spencer, student employees, worked on the ratings for space audits. Classrooms, seating, boards, flooring and screens were included in the rating. The classrooms were given an overall rate with 4.2 as the lowest and 5 the highest. Ratings for public spaces, vestibules, corridors, restrooms and lobbies were between 1 and 5. The average rating for 42 buildings was 4.6.

Overall, spaces have improved with an emphasis on rooms that have a high volume use.

Van Der Kley noted that if it wasn't for the students, the ratings would not have been accomplished. In addition, a one-time savings from Business and Finance

was made available to move this project forward and the Office of Information Technology funded upgrades in different areas.

The energy audit identified 35 areas for improvement to save energy. Stripping on exterior doors, installation of new windows and lighting changeovers to look better and save on energy are good examples. The Office of Sustainability has concrete floors and better usage of light.

The selection methodology is based on potential life safety, space usage and the condition analysis rating. For 2013, scheduled improvements may be Rood Hall and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences main traffic areas where carpeting needs to be improved.

Other Business

Richard Gershon reported that the new plaza was inaugurated and looks great. Phase I is completed and we will enter into Phase II for next year.

Two town hall meetings took place concerning East Hall and the next steps are to bring in engineers, planning and addressing issues from those meetings. Summary of the town hall meetings are on mywmu.com. The next open sessions will be in December to address the specific design and in March to review the designs. In order to finish the design, we have to know if there will be funding by December 2013 and this information needs to be provided by Jim Thomas, vice president for development and alumni relations. Our timelines have been provided to Thomas. The WMU Alumni Association donated \$1,000,000 to be used for the main building. Plans hinge on the additional funding for each wing. The North Hall façade is being kept for now. Van Der Kley suggested presenting the designs at a Campus Planning and Finance Council meeting.

Honsberger provided an informational one page piece called "General Fund Budget Outlook for 2013/14" that was previously shared with the WMU Board of Trustees in June. This page is a summary that describes both the revenue and expenditure detailed changes that were incorporated into the 2013/14 estimated General Fund Board Budget. Honsberger noted that the tuition budget from last year was short by -5.5 million dollars. This was a one-time loss to the 2012/13 budget but also a base loss to the beginning budgetary base for projecting future year budgets. This beginning fiscal year -5.5 mil tuition revenue deficit combined with an estimated 2013/14 -4.5 mil shortfall (-2.3% decrease in headcount) created an overall enrollment related deficit of approximately -10 million dollars to begin the 2013/14 fiscal year. To cover this deficit, tuition increases along with a -6.9 mil budget reduction was instituted. The announcement of this budget reduction came as no surprise to many; President Dunn had been alerting his senior leadership team and others throughout the 2012/13 fiscal year to plan for such a reduction.

Our general fund budget is highly reliant on enrollment and a permanent increase in students/credit hours is needed each year to help maintain budgetary stability. We used to get a much larger allocation from the state. With the decrease in our

state allocations over time, it is very important for everyone to be mindful that minor changes in enrollment can make a significant impact on the budget.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn at 4:30 p.m. by Honsberger, seconded by Gershon. Motion passed.

Linda Poquette
Recording Secretary