

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE

CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL  
Minutes of Tuesday, 17 March 2015 at 3 p.m.  
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

**Members present:** Carol Adams Shearer (Graduate Student Association), Raja Aravamuthan, Todd Barkman, Cheryl Bauman-Bruey, David Dakin, Richard Gershon (for John Jellies), C. R. Krishna-Swamy, Kathleen Langan, Gary Mathews, Dennis McCrumb, Glen (Pat) Langworthy, Colleen Scarff, Jan Van Der Kley and Gay Walker

**Guests:** James Gilchrist, Vice Provost for Budget and Personnel and Chief Information Officer; Keith Hearit, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Jennifer Hsu, Coordinator, Office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services; Patti Van Walbeck, Associate Vice President for Business and Finance, and Linda Poquette, Business and Finance

*Welcome*

Vice Chair Kathleen Langan welcomed everyone to the meeting at 3 p.m.

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

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

*Approval of the Minutes of 17 February 2015*

A motion was made by Bauman-Bruey to approve the minutes of 17 February 2015, supported by Walker. Motion passed.

*Vice Chair's Comments – Kathleen Langan*

Langan informed the council that Michael Shelden, Physician Manager of Occupational Health, Sindecuse Health Center, is not attending due to student health fees not going into effect. Van Der Kley explained that there was an interest in increasing the student health fee. However, with students wanting to increase their student fee and tuition constraints, an increase in health fees for students will not move forward this year. Another consideration is the student health insurance, which may go out to national exchanges due to the Affordable Care Act. Langan suggested that we schedule Shelden to present at another time. Langan is also seeking May Chang, associate dean, University Libraries, to attend a meeting to provide information on the new projects she is overseeing with an emphasis on the new learning commons initiative and technology.

Langan is stepping down as chair of the Budget Modeling Committee due to other commitments. Todd Barkman will now chair this committee.

Information/Discussion Items

*Jennifer Hsu, Coordinator, Office of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services*

Hsu provided an overview of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Student Services. It is a single person office and under the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The office is used as a resource center for a large number of drop-ins. The office employs students in the work study program and through student support, the LBGT office has been able to increase programs. The graduate students work on making students feel safe and to be successful on campus through support, education and advocacy. Hsu noted that programs help reach over 1,000 students each year with an emphasis on their speak-out program. Career mentorship was also developed in the last year. Hsu provided brochures outlining the programs.

A current initiative is the challenge of using a name that fits their identity. Christopher Tremblay and Carrie Cumming are working with transgender students for their name designation. Other goals are to increase space, staff and finding an effective way to track LBGTs and their progress along with increased funding.

Allies works professionally to promote LBGT and help to make people comfortable. Recently, someone was identified to recruit and work with new LBGT students and there will be participation in the campus fair. Admission officers are going out and explaining the opportunities on this campus and the development of good relationships in career services is taking place.

*David Dakin – Project Updates*

- The seal sculpture is in place. By mid-April the rest of the concrete will be completed and the fountains running.
- Western Heights is close to being finished and should be ready for the residents to move in during August.
- East Hall may be finished the first part of fall. The goal is to have the dedication at Homecoming.
- Kanley Chapel - Stained glass, which is connected to what is in Sangren, is going up in the tower. The clock is going out for bids and the bells will be kept. A Western student was the designer.
- Extended University Programs - Bids came in under budget for the Beltline project and is scheduled for completion by August so classes may resume in the fall.
- Dining facility is currently out for bids. The project is scheduled to be finished in fall 2016.
- Vander Cook Hall's New Graduate Student Center – The package is together and fund raising may begin. This is not a project to be funded by the State as it does not meet the criteria for capital outlay outlined by the State.

*Jan Van Der Kley, Updates*

- Lawson Arena – The ice at the arena needs to be addressed and it is not possible for another fix-up. In order to maintain a competitive hockey program, seven million dollars needs to be invested, which includes the HVAC system and will help the entire building.
- Waldo Stadium will have a new scoreboard and a donor provided funds to make this possible.
- Valley enhancement project is centered on the pond. Dakin will provide information at a future meeting.
- Soccer fields have been improved and private funding was secured for bleacher and other updates. Soccer coaches and teams are very happy with their current circumstances.
- Goldsworth Valley visit for the council in April or May.

Van Der Kley reported on bond refunding that is taking place due to lower rates. WMU is working with Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The cost of the dining facility project is included in the bond refunding along with East Hall. Student Affairs is contributing a portion for this project and donations for East Hall have reached one million dollars. The balance for East Hall needs to be included in the revenue bonds. Development is working on commitments for this project for an additional five million dollars. The Power Plant is included in the refunding of bonds. The actual operations of the Power Plant should cover their debt service but this does not always happen and debt service costs have then gone under the general fund. The Power Plant tries to cover operating costs each year. There are no new projects included in the bond refunding.

**Action Item**

*Todd Barkman – Budget Modeling Subcommittee Selection*

We do have a draft and the subcommittee will review next month.

**Other Business**

No other business

**Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn at 4:45 p.m. by Bauman-Bruey, seconded by Walker. Motion passed.

Linda Poquette  
Recording Secretary