
CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL

Minutes of 15 March 2022

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 15 March, via Webex video conferencing by Geoffrey Lindenberg, chair.

Members in Attendance: Geoffrey Lindenberg, David Dakin, Betty Dennis, LuMarie Guth, Valerian Kwigizile, Melissa Rajter (substitute for Mike Ozga), James Penner, Colleen Scarff, Jan Van Der Kley, Cheryl Bauman-Bruey, Todd Barkman

Members Absent: Griffin Baginski, Lynne Heasley, Keith Hearit

Advisory Members in Attendance: Chris Cheatham

Advisory Members Absent: Tony Proudfoot

Ex Officio Member in Attendance: Osama Abudayyeh

Recording Secretary: Lindsey Rossiter, Business and Finance

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Dennis, seconded by Barkman, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Dennis, seconded by Barkman, to approve the 15 February 2022 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Lindenberg reported that Barkman attended the Faculty Senate as his substitute, but there was nothing to report. The new student center tour has been canceled for the April meeting; the meeting will take place via WebEx.

Ex Officio Abudayyeh reported that council leadership elections will be held during the April CPFC meeting.

Reports of Council/Committee Standing Committees

Dakin provided the report for Campus Facility Development, which included:

1. The New Student Center construction is in the final stages; tours have been canceled to prevent missing the completion date.
2. The construction fencing is up around Dunbar with temporary navigation signs until Summer 2023.
3. Central campus will be closed this summer until construction is completed in mid-August.

Discussion included admission tours; central campus map; demolition of Goldsworth Valley Apartments, Woodlawn Place, and Welborn Hall; the Moore Hall staging area; the pedestrian walk; and the new parking structure replacing Burnham Hall.

Scarff provided the report for University Budgets, which included:

1. Currently, waiting for state budgeting information.

Discussion included SRM forgiveness year; SRM hold harmless; SRM allocations; academic affairs budget; carry forwards; and timing of full implementation.

Van Der Kley provided the report for Business and Finance, which included:

1. The state should decide WMU's budget by 30 June.
2. Summer and fall enrollment are predicted to decline.

3. The decline in enrollment will result in negative revenue regardless of State funding or a possible tuition increase.
4. There is no way to evaluate the outcome due to all of the current unknowns; however, it does appear there will be some type of reduction for the University.

Cheatham provided the report for Budget and Personnel, which included:

1. For fall 2022, undergraduate beginner applications are up 8.3% and admitted students are up 9.1% compared to this time last year.
2. Master's applications are up 18% and admitted students are down 5%.
3. Doctoral applications are down 1.9% and admitted students are down 9.5% (8 students).
4. There are 1,549 students who have confirmed their attendance for the fall, and 723 have registered for orientation.
5. The deadline for the decision is 1 May, which is going to be extended to 1 June.
6. The summer 2022 enrollment is down 25% compared to last year for both summer semesters. This is a real difference and will be a focus that needs to be turned around.
7. Course offerings need to reflect the demand of the students.

Discussion included summer enrollment; COVID fatigue; new strategies; course modality; course decisions; closing buildings; and the Associate Provost for Enrollment Management interviews.

Proudfoot did not provide the report for Marketing and Strategic Communication.

Reports of Council Subcommittees

Dakin did not provide the report of the Transportation Subcommittee.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Dakin and Van Der Kley introduced the new Space Management Policy, which included:

1. The need for a space management policy was presented. With WMU's commitment to being learner-centered and student-focused – space must best serve students. As a discovery-driven University, physical facilities need to support research and creative activities. To meet sustainability goals and mitigate climate change, WMU's space design, maintenance, and use are critical. Space is a strategic asset and often a university's largest non-personnel expenditure. WMU's reputational image is directly impacted by space management decisions.
2. Details were provided regarding how space will be managed. A Space Advisory Committee (SAC) has been charged with managing space at WMU. The SAC is comprised of executive officers representing Academic Affairs, Advancement, Athletics, the Board of Trustees, Business and Finance, Diversity and Inclusion, Research and Innovation, Student Affairs, a Dean appointment, and a non-voting member from the Planning, Space Management and Capital Projects unit. SAC will periodically (at least once a year) obtain project input from shared governance partners – Faculty Senate, Graduate Student Association and Western Student Association. Significant projects will include general public input sessions designed to gather campus perspective. SAC will advance recommendations to the President's Cabinet.
3. Different projects will have different pathways. University Advancement is engaged if space is connected with donor naming or significant gifting. Space within a department, division, or college can be internally reassigned if use or purpose is limited to that organizational group and renovations cost less than \$1 million. Leases and real property purchases (land and buildings) are managed by the Space Advisory Committee. Requests for space outside of the department, division, or college are managed by the Space Advisory Committee. Renovations to existing space beyond \$1 million are managed by the Space Advisory Committee. New construction is managed by the Space Advisory Committee.

Discussion included a Faculty Senate representative, input sessions, shared governance partners, process, public communication, relinquishing space, empty rooms, future of space, charging stations, and negative social media.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Bauman-Bruey, seconded by Dennis, to adjourn the meeting at 4:42 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Campus Planning and Finance Council will meet again on 19 April 2022 via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Lindsey Rossiter, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved on 19 April 2022.