
CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL

Minutes of 16 May 2023

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Campus Planning and Finance Council was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on 16 May 2023 via Webex video conferencing by Geoffrey Lindenberg, chair.

Members in Attendance: Todd Barkman, Cheryl Bruey, David Dakin, Betty Dennis, LuMarie Guth, Keith Hearit, Lynne Heasley, Valerian Kwigizile, Geoffrey Lindenberg, Colleen Scarff, Jan Van Der Kley

Members Absent: Bret Geier, Mohammad Daneshvar Kakhki, Melissa Powers

Advisory Member Present: Christopher Cheatham, Tony Proudfoot

Ex Officio Member Present: Bret Wagner

Guest: Julian Vasquez Heilig, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Agenda

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

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Heasley, seconded by Bruey, to approve the 18 April 2023 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Lindenberg reported on the 12 May 2023 Faculty Senate meeting.

Ex Officio Wagner did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representatives

Scarff reported that there is measured optimism on state appropriations. The estimated increase ranges from 4% to 6%. Tuition restraint is 4.5% for undergraduates. The report will be available on 19 May.

Van Der Kley reported that the student center will be turned over to the University at the end of June, with a soft opening in July. The grand opening will be in September. Dunbar is scheduled to open in Spring 2024. The suite at Waldo Stadium is nearing completion. There is some possibility of getting funding for the Knauss project this year.

Cheatham reported that 16 May is the Summer I census. There are no official census numbers yet, but it is expected to be down 9.9% in headcount and 11.1% in credit hours from last year. Enrollment is 95% of the forecasted credit hours. The forecast is projecting a 3.1% enrollment decline from last year. At this time, enrollment is down 4%. It is expected that there will be a decline in undergraduates and an increase in graduates, although this is dependent on international applications, which are harder to yield. The goal is to keep retention increases on track. It is too early to project new admissions. Orientation for honors students will begin on 17 May. Orientation will open to all incoming first-year students in June. [The orientation schedule is available.](#)

Proudfoot shared WMU application data for 2022-23. Applications have been trending up since 2020-21. WMU gained market share in 2022-23. The focus is on determining the value proposition, points of distinction that differentiate WMU from other universities. These points of distinction will lead to signature

initiatives. At this time, WMU is leaning into experiential learning and determining what aspect of experiential learning is needed.

Unfinished Business

The election for Campus Planning and Finance Council Secretary was held. Guth self-nominated for secretary.

[MOTION] It was moved by Hearit, seconded by Bruey, to elect Guth as secretary for the 2023-24 academic year. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Heilig discussed the impact of the budget model for Charge 2. Models are being run to encourage collaboration among the colleges, which will be presented to the deans. If the subvention schedule is adjusted, offsetting support for colleges that are growing can be expected. This is a question for the Provost Council. There are programs that are limited in enrollment because of accreditation requirements. Other options for credit hours need to be explored to keep the smaller programs. Colleges are making proposals along these lines. A discussion was held on how the move to Strategic Resource Management (SRM) will be assessed. A discussion was held regarding incentives for students to go into the liberal arts. A liberal education is a less certain path, but it opens doors to many different careers. A liberal arts degree offers uniquely human skills (problem solving, communication, critical thinking, etc.).

Chair Lindenberg will forward the year-end draft report to CPFC. Please send feedback for submission before the end of June.

CPFC reviewed the Charges for 2022-23:

1. Charge 1 concerning the Western Student Association (WSA) Neighborhood Association was addressed. The WSA Neighborhood Association will be formed in Fall 2023.
2. Charge 2, exploring the SRM budget model, is recommended to continue into 2023-24.
3. Charge 3, review and input on campus master plan and construction process, is recommended to continue into 2023-24.
4. Charges 4 and 5, processes for enrollment forecasting and recruitment in retention, are recommended to continue into 2023-24.
5. Charge 6, information security and information technology, is recommended to continue into 2023-24. CPFC could potentially add Andrew Holmes, Chief Information Officer, as a CPFC member instead of continuing the charge.
6. Charge 7 concerned the review of campus policing and demographic data. CPFC may have to reword to match the data that is available.
7. Charges 8, 9, and 10 are recommended to continue into 2023-24. There has been interest in introducing a new charge addressing sustainability. Office for Sustainability Director Jeff Spoelstra has expressed interest in speaking to CPFC.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Hearit, seconded by Guth, to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Campus Planning and Finance Council will next meet in September, with the date to be determined over the summer.

Approval

Submitted by LuMarie Guth, Secretary

Minutes approved on 19 September 2023.