

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Campus Planning and Finance Council was called to order at 3:09 p.m. on 21 May 2024 via Webex video conferencing by Geoffrey Lindenberg, chair.

Members Present: Todd Barkman, Cheryl Bruey, David Dakin, Betty Dennis, LuMarie Guth, and Geoffrey Lindenberg

Members Absent: Brett Geier, Lynne Heasley, Mohammad Daneshvar Kakhki, Valerian Kwigizile, Colleen Scarff, and Jan Van Der Kley

Advisory Members Present: Christopher Cheatham, Jeff Spoelstra

Advisory Members Absent: Tony Proudfoot

Ex Officio Member Absent: Osama Abudayyeh

Guest: Andrew Broderick, Perkins & Will; Neil Reindel, Perkins & Will

Quorum

A quorum was not present, with 6 members in attendance, of the 8 needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

The agenda was reviewed but could not be voted on due to a lack of quorum.

New Business

Broderick, Reindel, and Dakin presented for Charge 2 on the Campus Master Plan. Their goals in the planning process are to advance learning and discovery, foster a sense of community, engage the region, recalibrate campus, integrate sustainability, and promote health and wellness. The principles are to protect natural areas and preserve open space, develop and improve campus edges, embrace mixed-use campus neighborhoods, strengthen the pedestrian experience, improve mobility and access to the downtown, and plan for flexibility to adapt to future needs. The alignment of the goals and principles was presented on a matrix. We have approximately 6 million gross square footage with 3.6 million to keep, 1.6 million for potential demolition, including Bernhard Center, 827k of potential renovation and new construction to-be-announced. The master planning team will be engaging with campus this fall at Bronco Bash, a development workshop in September, a to-be-announced event in October, and a refinement workshop in November with the goal of producing a plan at the January Board of Trustees meeting. The neighborhoods concept is a method of thinking about space use within pockets of campus in terms of what fits best in that area of campus based on its current and ideal use.

Minutes

The minutes were reviewed but could not be voted on due to a lack of quorum. No corrections were proposed.

Election of Officers

Guth self-nominated for chair. There was no nominations for a secretary. There was no vote due to a lack of quorum.

Reports of Officers

Guth reported on the April Faculty Senate meeting.

Ex Officio Abudayyeh did not report due to absence.

Reports of University Representatives

Scarff did not provide a report due to absence.

Van Der Kley did not provide a report due to absence.

Cheatham reported that Summer II is up 2.4% up in undergraduate headcount and up 26.9% in graduate headcount, for a total of 11.3% compared to last year. Undergraduate Student Credit Hours (SCH) are up 4.7% and graduate SCH are up 19%, for a total of 9.6% compared to last year. This exceeded the forecast of a 3% decline. There should be some one-time money going back to the colleges based on their summer enrollment.

Fall total headcount is down 1.8% and SCH is down 2.2% compared to last year. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) delays have been impacting new beginner confirmations as they are waiting to hear from all the schools they applied to. Our confirmation numbers are 5.9% lower than this time last year; however, this is an improvement on a couple of weeks ago, when it was 11.9% lower. Fall point-to-point retention is up across all classes: 1.4 percentage points for freshmen, the same for First Time in Any College (FTIAC), 2.9 percentage points for sophomores, 2.5 percentage points for juniors, and 4.2 for seniors. Work this summer is on solidifying the projections for the incoming freshmen class.

Proudfoot did not provide a report due to absence.

Dakin reported for Facilities Management. A survey in February found that parking ranged from 48% to 51% total occupancy throughout the day. The Ellsworth ramp has particularly low usage, which may lead to removal. There are plans to transition over to parking structures for sustainability purposes, which would be funded largely through parking permits and fees. There was a discussion of the importance of focusing on accessibility for disabled parking and the model for payment for parking, and the designation of parking spots, which is partially determined by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) contract. The mix of spots is reviewed each year based on usage patterns.

Spoelstra reported for the Office for Sustainability. Dr. Steve Bertman, Professor, School of Environment, Geography, and Sustainability, will be reporting on his listening sessions. There are discussions of energy supply and demand over the long term as a part of the master planning process, and collaboration on those efforts. There are conversations around the student sustainability fee and space use by the Office for Sustainability.

New Business

Review of the role statement for Charge 6: Review the Scope and Description of the Council's Role Statement. There were no changes proposed. There is support for dropping the transportation subcommittee, which was convened to assist in the drafting of the transportation master plan.

Charge 7: Year-End Report Input Session charges were reviewed. Chair Lindenberg requested to send in language for potential charges to be included in the year-end report. Spoelstra will send in information on a project that may impact the wording of our sustainability charge.

Unfinished Business

None.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned without a vote at 4:57 p.m. The Campus Planning and Finance Council will meet next on 17 September 2024 via Webex video conferencing at 3 p.m.

Approval
Minutes Submitted by LuMarie Guth, secretary

Reviewed on 17 September 2024