MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING
Thursday afternoon, October 3, 2013
Student Union room 205 at 3:30 pm

Absent: Jason Brody, Brad Burenheide, Diana Farmer, Heather Reed, and Mark Weiss
Proxies: Drew Smith for Joel DeRouchey and Steven Graham
Visitors: Cindy Bontrager, Jeffery Morris, and Ryan Swanson

1. Barbara Anderson, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm

2. The September 5, 2013 minutes were approved as submitted.

3. Old Business: Cindy Bontrager to discuss budget reallocations in FY 14 and other topics related to KSU funding (30 minutes or less)
   Anderson welcomed Bontrager to the meeting. Bontrager spoke about budget reallocations that have been discussed for future years. The budget is done for FY14; they’ve already had to balance that out. What hasn’t been done is dealing with the increases to the base to fund the mid-year salary increase of 2% for FY 2014 and 2% merit salary increase for FY15 and 2% for FY16. They have already asked areas to give back a little less than 3 million one-time in FY 2014 to fund the mid-year salary increase in FY 2014. Scholarships were protected since they are committed and the utility budget. Otherwise, everyone will be impacted in their general use dollars. Discussion ensued. There are a lot of unknowns at this stage for FY15 and FY16 planning. It was noted that the University Budget Committee will begin meeting soon and conversation will take place there. There was discussion about merit raises. It was the understanding of those in attendance that ones who do not have a 2012 calendar year evaluation will not be in this pool for merit raises. Discussion of the three-year salary plan took place. Anderson reaffirmed what was in the salary plan. Feedback was shared from a faculty member’s perspective as well as an administrative perspective.

   Anderson thanked Bontrager for attending and the committee would like to invite her to come back again as things unfold with the budget. The classified employee situation was briefly discussed.

4. New Business: Meet Ryan F. Swanson, new Associate VP of Campus Planning and Facilities Management

   Anderson welcomed Ryan Swanson and took a moment to outline his role on campus. Swanson reported he has been here just a little over two weeks. He has spent a good portion of that time visiting with units and listening to their needs. His desire is to lay the ground work to combine the planning side of things and the facilities side of things. He informed committee members he is an architect and holds an MBA. He has not yet been to the Salina and Olathe campuses, but would like to as soon as possible. On arrival he began assisting in the business school project. It was mentioned that student fees will be used in this new business building, which is a brand new strategy all together. It was understood this will not be done until FY16, if then. Administration is trying to get the funds from the state first. Historical background was briefly provided about how buildings have been funded. The comment was made that if there comes to be a general “building
fund” that is funded through student fees, there needs to be fairness in how those funds are distributed. Lengthy discussion ensued. Perhaps such a fund should be used for repairs to existing buildings and infrastructure, which are things that donors will not be as likely to fund as new construction.

It was duly noted that there needs to be a transparent decision making process. Swanson echoed this is important. This means there will be transparency and open dialogue. However, that doesn’t mean everyone will agree at all times.

Swanson also mentioned changes that are being made to the contract for the new chiller plant project that will save money and provide a better outcome.

Swanson showed a couple slides of the Campus Master Plan and discussed possible changes to take place on campus.

Overview: Swanson is working with the Business School building project; he has had input regarding the central plant renovation regarding chilled water; as well as a few other items. His hope is to also make the work order process more user-friendly. Overall, the goal is to get the planning and facilities units functioning well, and then work on campus improvement.

Members thanked Swanson for attending and look forward to seeing him again in the spring.

5. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 7, 2013, Student Union room 205 at 3:30 pm: