

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING
November 6, 2003 3:30 PM Room 204, K-State Union

Present: Jones, Oberst, Rowlett, Rys, Schumm, Spikes, Knapp for Stadlander, Watts, Youngman

Absent: Behnke, Cochran, De Bres, Hassan, O'Hara, Peters

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Walter Schumm, Chair, at 3:30 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes

A motion was made by Watts and seconded by Oberst to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2003 FSCOUP meeting. Motion passed.

III. Announcements

A. Faculty Senate Leadership Council (FSLC)

Schumm reported that the Provost gave a briefing on the budget situation at the FSLC/President's Staff meeting last Monday. The state revenues are better than expected and no recissions are expected this year, however the budget is not out of the woods yet. K-State is hoping for a tuition increase to fund some activities and other areas. Health insurance is increasing around 22% and will cost the university another 2 million dollars and with inflation figured into that amount, it will cost the university close to 3 ½ million dollars.

B. Other

Schumm reported that Gary Hellebust, President and CEO of the Foundation Center, attended the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting and presented information about the hotel that may be built on campus. Hellebust said they will proceed carefully with this project. Watts said that the College of Architecture, Planning and Design has not seen any of the plans for the hotel and do not know who the architects are for the project. His college was able to make suggestions regarding the Alumni Center project that were useful and was hoping that they would also see plans for the hotel before it is too late to make changes to the plan. FSCOUP members agreed that they have no criticism for the concept, but of the process. The project seems to be on a fast track and they wondered if the quality will be there. Marriott wants to move into Manhattan and some felt that the Foundation is rushing to put together a package before private property gets it. There was discussion regarding who owns the Union parking lot. It may be auxiliary property since the Union is not a state agency. Schumm said that the Executive Committee was assured that the project is financially feasible and that the

hotel would make enough money with just K-State football game days to cover the expenses for a year. The hotel will not have a full scale restaurant in it, but may have a breakfast buffet. The Union would support the rest of the food service, but they cannot handle the extra business without updating their equipment. It was not known whether the cost of the hotel would include updating the Union equipment. Oberst mentioned that 4th Street was also mentioned as a site for a hotel/convention center.

IV. Review of Building Projects

Schumm reported that a classroom building has been moved up on the list of building projects. Schumm distributed handouts of Chapters I (Introduction) and IV (Planning Framework) of the K-State Master Plan.

V. Ten Year Future Plan for the University

Schumm distributed handouts of Chapter V (Future Plans) of the K-State Master Plan and also the Campus Master Plan for the next 50 years from the Division of Facilities website.

VI. Old Business

A. Effects of Budget Reductions

Schumm reported he was not able to get a spreadsheet on budget reductions yet.

1. Assessment Issues

Spikes said that there was a lot of confusion about assessment issues. The Provost sent out a memo explaining that each course does not need to meet each assessment outcome and that has helped.

2. Faculty Morale

Youngman said that he had not heard anything about the Compensation Task Force. Schumm reported that the subcommittees have been meeting. Watts asked if any information was being gathered about student and parent morale with the increasing tuition rates. Schumm said that the tuition increase plan was set for five years. The Board of Regents has to approve the increases on a year-to-year basis. Youngman mentioned that the plan for tuition increases was in place before the budget crisis. Many departments have open lines from unfilled positions. Watts said he would like to see data on trends of total number of faculty, including tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure faculty and compare it to the enrollment figures. Rowlett said he currently working on some of those numbers. Jones reported that students bargained for enhancements with the tuition increases and that may happen again with another tuition increase. Oberst wondered if students are concerned with the availability of classes and the discontinuance of honors programs. Schumm also said that if K-State keeps increasing tuition, we may have to worry about competition from community college for lower level courses. Rowlett said that we have only had tuition ownership a couple of years and that many decisions still have to be made. The decisions the Compensation Task Force makes are very important.

FSCOUP members also discussed the perception of the new hotel the Foundation Center wants to build. Rowlett said the Foundation is looking at this as an investment that will make money. Schumm said that citizens in town and around the state see new buildings and don't understand why they hear us complaining about salaries. Spikes asked if legislators hear from constituents about this perception too.

Knapp mentioned that KU's classified employees have left the state system but they will still have insurance and retirement under the state system. Youngman said that Sue Peterson is scheduling information forums on this topic.

Jones asked if Schumm would ask speakers to come to FSCOUP to address some of these issues. He said he would like to have someone discuss the hotel and other buildings scheduled to be built. Jones also thought it would be beneficial to have student leaders share their views on tuition increases since they are K-State's customers.

VII. New Business - none

VIII. For the Good of the University

Rowlett was asked how her husband was doing and she said he was diagnosed with West Nile virus but is doing much better.

Schumm announced that gas was ten cents cheaper in Wamego.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.