

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING
Thursday, May 5, 2016; 2:00 pm
Union room 205

Present: Barbara Anderson, Gloria Holcombe, Byron Jones, Tim Keane, Gary Leitnaker (alternate for Heather Reed), Laurel Littrell, Dave Rintoul, Drew Smith, Jessica Van Ranken, and Spencer Wood (Chair)

Absent: Brad Burenheide, Lynn Carlin (Liaison for Provost Office), Tori Culbertson, Stu Duncan, and Mark Weiss

1. Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm and made introductions.
2. The April 7, 2016 minutes were approved as submitted.
3. Old Business

A. Follow up on Draft Furlough Policy: Gary Leitnaker

Committee members had good discussion about the guidelines. There was a fundamental question about whether there is time for substantial review of the guidelines, or if these are just tweaks. Also, there was major concern over how teaching is addressed in the guidelines.

Leitnaker and committee members reviewed the comments received by those who have reviewed the policy and guidelines. The range of tiers can be adjusted; Leitnaker will take this back to his group and will provide the revisions to FSCOUP perhaps over the summer. There was conversation about those on sabbatical leave, for example if it has to do with paid research. Tenure clock issue was raised. Various other topics were raised that will need some editing.

Leitnaker thanked members for the feedback. It will be reviewed and additional entries and updates to the FAQs will be made. In addition, Wood requested a response back regarding the issue of teaching not being touched if there is a furlough. The tier levels will also be addressed. There could still be four tiers, but the range would be altered. It was proposed that it could be proportional instead of based on a certain number; or perhaps a living wage could be used. It will be reviewed and updated.

In short, the policy itself is good to go, but the guidelines will need some adjusting. Leitnaker will begin editing the guidelines document with the comments received and will be back in touch with FSCOUP. He will likely be a guest at the September meeting.

B. City/University Fund projects

Holcombe provided a brief overview of what happened at the city meeting in April. There was some discussion about the money being provided regarding Colbert Hills. It was conveyed by the city that the whole process seemed to go more smoothly this year.

A few ideas have been brought forward for this year. One idea that was brought forward earlier in the semester was lighting near the University Gardens. Also mentioned again was the parking garage partnership possibility with Aggieville. It seems likely that 24/7 usage would be likely. Right now the parking garage by the Union gets very little use in the evening, unless there is an event. However, if a garage was in Aggieville it would get the evening usage. Anderson volunteered to pursue this idea once again. The monies available from the city/university fund are small, but they would assist with initial studies and/or fees etc.

Storm water management is a real issue for both the university and city and therefore, should remain on future lists. The rain water garden was the only idea sent forward from the joint report last year that the university did not submit to the city. There were likely various reasons for this. However, there continues to be water issues after storms. A side topic brought up was the master planning for the North part of campus. There are many areas impacted further down campus by the rains. It was echoed that these storms and lack of water management on campus affects the city areas nearby. Wood will follow up on this project.

Wood also mentioned again an electricity generating idea for future years. The digester captures methane, burns it, transfers it to a turbine station to create energy; uneaten food waste runs it. So far this is the list that will move forward:

- 1) University Gardens Lighting
- 2) Additional parking – partnering with Aggieville (Anderson will follow up)
- 3) Increased control of storm water management (Wood will continue with this)

C. University Budget

The current state of the budget was briefly discussed; the news is not good.

4. New Business

A. Meeting ideas/schedule for 2016-2017

The first meeting in September will be to review the furlough guidelines as well perhaps finalize the city/university recommendations from this body.

5. The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 1, 2016; 2:00 pm; Union room 205