UNIVERSITY PLANNING COMMITTEE
The University Faculty Senate

Minutes

8:30 to 10:40 AM, September 10, 2013
214 Business Bldg

Attending: Claudia Brown; Bill Carlsen; Gong Chen; Nicholas DeAngelis; Michael Dooris; David Gray; Kane High; Joseph Horn; David Lieb; Mary Miles (Vice Chair); John-Paul Milton; Keith Nelson; Stephen Ross; Jim Sellmer; Rachel Smith; and Ford Stryker. Attending by phone: Roger Egolf (Chair)
Absent: Rodney Kirsch; Susan Strauss

1. April 23, 2013 UPC committee meeting minutes approved.

2. Announcements by the Chair
   • General Education Task Force has been charged, created subcommittees and will meet weekly on Thursdays with report by Fall 2015. Expectation is for significant changes in general education requirements.

3. Brief updates from administrative liaisons in UPC
   a. Physical Plant and Resources – Ford Stryker
      i. Facility Planning Advisory Board (FPAB) needs two representatives from UPC. Bill Carlsen is a member. Keith Nelson volunteered to serve. First meeting tomorrow (Wednesday, Sept. 11, noon, Pegula Ice Arena, Mt. Nittany Room.
      ii. Pegula Ice Arena Construction done. Groups are moving into the facility as of last Friday. First game Oct 10th.
      iii. Building Report:
         1. Two data centers planned with one at University Park and the other at Hershey. Planned to accommodate a maximum 4 megawatts each, being built with 1 megawatt to begin and expandable. Cost $97 Million. To be presented at Sept. Board of Trustees Meeting. U.P. site will include moving the Mushroom Research Facility and construction of new space for them.
         2. Five year capital plan beginning this year and running for four more years will focus on renewal of existing facilities mainly be replacement and renovation of education and general facilities, specific targets updating housing stock. Capital spending plan to be reported to University Faculty Senate at October session.
   b. Development & Alumni Relations – Dave Lieb
      i. In last year of seven-year development campaign with 94% of overall target met. Celebration planned in April 2014 during Blue and White Weekend with a Weekend long celebration.
ii. Development and Alumni Relations has been undergoing a comprehensive program review including a six month study by their consulting firm including data analysis, recommendations from faculty, staff, deans, volunteers for moving forward. Future priorities for consideration in funding raising include greater attention to targeting parents who can afford principle gifts of five million or more; greater talent management looking at in-house recruiters rather than outside consultants; strengthened volunteer engagement with a target of reaching more volunteers over time.

iii. Based on recommendations Development and Alumni Relations believe that rather than 2.1% growth based on present effort that future investment may reach 9.2% with consultant recommendations.

c. University Budget Office – Rachel Smith

i. Budget Plan Write-up for 2014-15 acts as the foundation for President Erickson’s testimony for Appropriation Request to the State of Pennsylvania Budget Committee. Write-up to be delivered to Board of Trustees at September meeting. Request will be a five percent increase in funding (~$10.7 million). This is the starting point for negotiations.

1. Working scenarios:
   a. 2014/15 fiscal year will be challenging for Penn State to meet budget driven by anticipated health care costs. 2015/16 will be more challenging with predicted health care cost increases and State Employee Retirement System (SERS) post retirement healthcare costs targeted to increase.
   b. Challenges will be greater if Penn State enrollment numbers models change.

2. Budget estimates for general salary increases are being worked on for an October release.

3. Next week or week after new employee HR will unveil contribution structure. In general those making less than $50K will pay less for healthcare; $50-100K employees will pay the same; and those greater than $100K will pay more for healthcare. In addition, a high deductible plan will be offered for those that feel they are healthy and can take the risk. Finally, a health savings plan will be offered with Penn State contributing in the first year. General view many will see healthcare costs go down.

d. Office of Planning & Institutional Assessment – Michael Dooris

i. Institutional planning has been ongoing for the past 30+ years with 47 planning and budgeting units including campuses, colleges, University libraries, and athletics programs. Guidelines for preparing five-year plans were distributed in June 2013 to these units. All plans to be submitted to the Provost by July 2014. University planning lags by one year behind unit plans. University Planning committee includes 22 people (staff, faculty, students, deans, etc).
4. Mandated Reports – Discuss Dates and Content
   a. University Budget Report:
      a. Scheduled in March but at discretion of Provost Jones
      b. Indirect Research Cost Report to discuss cost allocation and budgeting.
         Jointly submitted with the Research Committee for direct to web in January.
         i. Keith Nelson suggested a meeting with the Controller regarding
            Indirect Research Cost discussion for next UPC meeting.
   b. Space Allocation and Utilization:
      a. Report going directly to web rather than Senate session. Presented by Deb
         Howard in March. This is an every other year report.
   c. Construction:
      a. Ford Stryker to present on the Capital Spending Plan rather than a
         Construction report of what has been built. This will be a full Senate report
         in December or January.
      b. Sustainability Report by the Sustainability Office by Denise Wardrop
   d. Development and Alumni Relations Report:
      a. David Leib to present at December 10 Senate Meeting.


6. Report on progress of the Budget Task Force – Senior Vice President David Gray
(9:45 AM)
   • Recommendations to President Erickson, Academic Leadership Council, and the
     President’s Council
     o 74 recommendations outlined in handout provided from four and the six active
       subcommittees (Budget, Tuition and Fee Structures, World Campus and Online
       learning, Campuses). Two subcommittees were added later and are still working
       (Research and Ag Research and Cooperative Extension)
     o Highlights:
       - Tuition Subcommittee:
         • Two tiered tuition rates were unveiled this year for the
           Commonwealth Campuses
         • Proposed 50% increase in tuition for students taking 19+ credit
           hours per semester. At this point this is on hold until the ISIS
           system is replaced.
           o Questions were asked about the damage this might do to
              enrollment
         • International undergraduate students will see a $500 per
           semester increase in tuition to aid in covering upfront costs
           accrued in supporting those students in courses.
           o Questions were raised about the potential that this will be
              a disincentive for international student enrollment at Penn
              State which is growing especially from China.
Gong Chen noted the level of growth from 12 students from China 10 years ago to 500 students today. Hope this does not make Penn State less attractive. Suggested a gradual increase in price with each semester starting at $50 then increasing rather than shocking the system.

- **World Campus Subcommittee:**
  - Greater focus on blended or hybrid courses to reduce face-to-face activities in order to reduce building costs. Enhanced space utilization
  - Enhanced Virtual Learning Network to share courses among Commonwealth campuses
  - Further study of MOOC’s (Massive Open Online Courses) and their cost recovery potential. Brief discussion of the viability of MOCC’s (Massive Online for Credit Courses) which has been proposed by Craig Weidman
    - John-Paul Milton asked about investment into online learning support and incentives for resident ed faculty.

- **Campuses subcommittee:**
  - Support growth of growing campuses (Harrisburg, Abington, Brandywine, Altoona, and Behrend) in the area of housing and student amenities.
  - Restructuring smaller campuses to focus on core and market demand (e.g., Dubois)
    - Question was asked about closing campuses and the response is to support changes to campuses and building synergies first.
    - Concerns and fears were brought up by Claudia Brown of Shenango about Penn State walking away from the struggling campuses and communities of Western Pennsylvania which are considered Appalachian region. It was also noted Ohio State and Youngstown State are providing in-state tuition incentives to residents in western Pennsylvania. Mr. Gray assured that the changes in focus and building group synergies is intended to enhance the vibrancy of the local campuses.

7. **Old Business – None**

8. **New Business**
   - **Engaged Community and Scholarship Initiative: Janet Conner**
     - An Engaged Scholarship position paper being circulated. A copy of the working draft was sent via email by Roger Egolf
     - Purpose to promote academically based out of classroom experiences for students to take abstract thinking and applied thinking to problem solving.
Experiences include undergraduate research, internships, service learning, capstone courses, and study abroad opportunities.

- University Wide Task Force was initiated in May 2012 for a two-year period with both conceptual support and some limited funding.
- Partners in the initiative include the Provosts Office, Student Affairs, and Outreach and Online education.
- Currently the initiative has been working with the General Education Task Force and Middle States, Administrative Council on Undergraduate Education, and Academic Leadership Council in developing and representing the overarching learning goals of the initiative and reviewing drafts of the report being developed.
- Nine Senate Committees have been charged with participating in this initiative and the development of an informational report.
- A Faculty Senate Informational Report is planned for October with a Forensic session planned for December.
  - Gong Chen asked about research opportunities in relation to students and whether there was funding support.
  - Keith Nelson asked about college credit for related undergraduate experiential activities.
  - Keith Nelson asked about benchmarking against peer institutions. Janet noted that Michigan State has had a service-learning component to their education for over 50 years but no direct benchmarking has been done. Penn State’s approach is unique to us and the partnership between undergraduate education, student affairs, outreach, and world campus is our challenge and provides a special opportunity for all involved. Relevant to this effort is the Pittsburgh Outreach Center and its program with partnering with communities in Pittsburgh.
  - Ford Stryker asked about contacts for Careen Yarnal and Barry Bram

- Requests were made for several discussions at the next UPC meeting in October
  - Ask David Gray and Susan Basso to discuss the Wellness Initiative
  - Keith Nelson requested that a balanced meeting of process in the decision for the initiative and its roll out be discussed including presence of dissenters and promoters of the program and that as a committee a remedy to the present situation be considered.
  - Keith Nelson also requested a similar discussion regarding the privatization of child care and its effect on quality of day care.

9. Adjournment

Submitted by Roger Egolf, Committee Chair