

CFR Minutes
1st March 2019
9:30-11:30am VUB 303

Present: Michael Berger, Susan Finley, Nicole Campbell, Michael Curry, Pam Stover, Ed Hagen, George Newman, Steve Solovitz, Bala Krishnamoorthy

Absent: Sarah Waters, Michael Dunn, Dene Grigar

Minutes from 2/15 were approved with revisions, unanimously

Reports

Campus Council (Mike Berger): CC will meet during spring break to review 1 time budget requests.

Mike reported a meeting with VCAA yesterday – she’s thinking about the next academic plan. It will be internal rather than external. Cost benefit considerations determined that external firms are not familiar enough with our system to be effective. Last time, lots of small boutique programs resulted, only a few panned out. Can we further develop existing programs? Come up with the *process* – integrate into next strategic plan.

Faculty Senate (Susan Finley): Yesterday in steering, there were conversation about hiring through VCAA and not having dedicated lines in specific units. This was concerning to the senate, as it could represent some loss of unit autonomy. Concern expressed, no action pushed for.

Greg Rose has chaired budget committee 2 terms now – he can’t serve any more. Our campus will lose this chair and major voice. Greg volunteered to work through summer.

There was conversation during reports that MITe and MITs programs are facing further review. Each differs a lot by campus. Academic Affairs want this straightened out by next accreditation review. Education still wants MIT programs tailored to the needs of local communities. Loss of some campus integrity could result. Education has worked on these programs already – how much more can they change? The Whole University is accredited. There’s not any Education specific accreditation they can lean on. Could other units face this issue? Academic Affairs committee in Faculty Senate will bring this problem up. If it is a wider issue, Berger says CFR might chime in.

Research Advisory Council (Ed Hagen): No updates. 3-minute thesis competition last week. Srijanie from Math won. Great event. Math specifically trained students for short talk format.

Strategic Plan Updating Committee (Sara Waters absent, Mike Berger reports): Continuing to meet weekly to review strategy and objectives for 5 goals, and provide [stuff promised in last CRF meeting, on proposed time table], there will be mechanism for faculty input. Berger forwarded brief process overview to CFR.

This committee is very light on faculty. Why isn't this appointed by CFR? Members are team leads and top admin – and there's a token faculty member. Perhaps CFR should seek out committees and request appointing power on some where we don't currently have it.

Bring up with Mel today. Could we add another faculty member?

Announcements

AVCAA search: planning on campus interviews – first is Mon 3/18 after spring break, and following week. Public presentation and 30 minutes for CFR to meet with each candidate.

CFR Elections Upcoming: Berger handed out list of our CFR service terms. Bolded ones need election this year. Susan Finley's senate term is coming up. There is a need to discuss how CFR/Senate representation will work with new senate seats. Who will be on steering? Who on CFR? Who will receive stipend? Should we split up the stipend? Roles? Susan will run for next term in senate. Next meeting after FA, which is 4/5, we will make this an agenda item.

Graduate Course Data: Ed has been sorting through AMS data. He wants input on what people want to get out of this data. What we have – 4 sheets, one for each campus, all 500 level courses, mode of delivery, # students on each campus. Course taught over AMS will have entries on different campuses, no unique course identifiers. Some have different instructors on different campuses. There are mistakes – some courses are listed as AMS when they only have Pullman faculty and students. No direct data on which faculty are where. Maybe Elias can help identify this. Can we get section numbers? When an instructor is here and has only Pullman students, they only appear on the Pullman sheet. No other evidence indicates that this is an AMS course. Research presentations are another angle we should look at for supporting early career faculty and grad students. Can we pull information on these from AMS use?

Resolution of Business

Nominations for FSFAC: Alair MacLean agreed to do it for 1 year, starting this Aug.

A.G. Rudd was added to the Provost Search Committee. (Dave Cillay said this was done shortly after nominations, they just forgot to update members on the committee web page.)

Constituent Concerns: None right now. Complaints about inconsistent delivery when AMS has more than 2 sites. Zoom might replace AMS and Skype for Business

Meeting with Chancellor Mel Netzhammer starts at 10:30am.

Residence halls: A developer working on the Smith Root property is doing something near campus and there was a conversation with them.

Our Master Plan is before the city. Text amendment that would rezone us is before the city. The Master Plan is not in compliance until the text amendment comes back. One session went very, very well. One with the Planning Commission went poorly. The hearing with them was only slightly better, but resulted in a 3-1 vote to recommend to the city. Source of difficulties? Neighbors want this project held hostage until WSU gets student parking habits under control. The Planning Commission understands WSU has no power over this and gave positive recommendations. 12 complaints, about 6 area residents showed up at the hearing to complain. Text amendment goes up for vote on 4/16. The business community is very positive with the Planning Commission regarding WSU's plan. The mayor offered to write a letter to the commission in our favor.

Potential Smith Root Plan: Two complexes, one bordering campus along steep road that goes nowhere. 50 units across 2 buildings near us, master leased. Ready March of next year. About 150 students. There's another 200 units right next door that won't be ours. Prices may create some issue. Still in early stages with developer. We'd have to furnish it. 3 floors, no elevator. Need lots of accessible parking.

Systemicalness: Jean Frankle (consultant) working with WSU to work on changes. Next strategic plan will be system plan, and each campus will have its own too. Will help delineate what is a system activity, what is a campus activity. Meetings all on Zoom now and has been better for engaged, respectful conversations. 18 people in these meetings. Two retreats with Jean, very constructive. "What does system-ness look like for athletics?" Wants to talk to CFR about roles of Deans on campuses. "No dean has ever raised a penny for WSU Vancouver." Mel is of mixed mind. Two options – recognize deans have very specific role and limit it to that (T&P, etc.) OR to say if 10% of your faculty are in Vancouver, 10% of the \$ you raise should go there. He would like to come back and talk to us about it later this year.

Provost Search: Isaacson Miller got together with committee to look over 10-15 candidates and solicit feedback on 2/6. Next (3/19) they will review all candidates with potential to have pool for interviews in early April. (Deadweek at the earliest.)

Doctoral Education: Have there been further discussions about how to support growth in a system wide way? This will be something to look for small wins up front with the new provost, specifically with waivers. We're funding about \$2.5mil in waivers at Vancouver right now. That's small on the system wide graduate school scale, but big to us.

Budget: Baseball Clubhouse is completely privately funded except for the last \$3mil. Faculty in Pullman are upset about the loan for the last \$3mil. Pledges cover it – but those are just pledges, not yet money. Why are we taking that credit risk? Because it's cheaper for athletics, and they need to save money.

Two years in we're predicted at 3.5mil in negative, which is hugely better. Still need central reserves. Everett still has no PBL, same with external and government relations, which deplete reserves as they are built. Are units with structural problems getting fixed? Answer is inconsistent. Some are, some not. For example, Athletics has improved, but it still needs more improvement. Some of the shiny outlook is due to healthy units saving even more than they were before.

We're up in enrollment, but not by our 90fte (20ish). There was a slight tuition increase. Maybe fewer waivers too? Conversations around 'Do we need another 2.5%? We've proven we're good at saving.' It is difficult to project an answer of "no" when finance must make decisions well ahead of measuring saving results.

Workday(TM) Financial Software: Going through change management piece. We should invite Teresa Watson to a meeting. She is the Lead for all non-Pullman campuses. Maybe 2 years away – update will be emailed to Berger. (Yes, you read that correctly – *two years!*)

Medical School: What is the state of the Med School, in light of the legislature denying 20 new students? They're not in the governor's current budget. 3/20 is the next budget forecast, which prompts the legislature's budget. We're engaging people to write legislators now. No question on 3rd and 4th year for the current 60 students. That will be funded. If we had to wait 2yrs to go to 80 students, it wouldn't affect Vancouver. The Med School could easily take 80 students – there have been many, many more applicants than available positions.

Discussions at the Chancellors' retreat indicate there are two models on the table.

- 1) College of Medicine will pay directly for expenses on Vancouver campus. Nothing more. (This may have been the original intent on the part of the med school.)
- 2) We would get tuition, state appropriation would continue to Spokane. Tuition exceeds what we currently get from our students (it's \$30k/yr per student – appropriation is \$60k.)

Mel is advocating strongly for the second. #2 still wouldn't cover everything for Vancouver. We could cover preceptors. Over time we could get more. The Med School can't afford more at the moment, and we need to compromise for now. Mel is adamant Vancouver based students should register here. They use our services.

How much overall risk is there for the Med School? Little – there is great demand and there is solid state support, even if it is coming slower than the fastest possible growth level.