**Planning and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 07, 2024**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Spotlight Room**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call: Wendy Polifka, Amanda Hendrix, Vishal Midha, Jeff Helms, Carl Palmer, Rick Valentin, Paige Hoffstetter**

**Absent:** Lea Cline, Dan Elkins

**Public Comment**

**None**

**Approval of Committee Minutes**

**Approved.**

**Chairperson’s Remarks**

**Rick Valentin:** We have a few items today, the concealed carry policy, smoke and tobacco policy, and the violence policy have just gotten back from General council. We will have these up on teams, and review these next meeting.

**Order of Business:**

1. Review *Excellence By Design: 2024-2029* Illinois State University’s Strategic Plan

Rick Valentin: We are tasked to review the strategic plan draft, the goal of this is to give an endorsement and give this to the senate. The mission statement requires approval; however, the strategic plan needs to be endorsed. I would like us to do a walk through. This is still a draft.

Starting off we have the introduction and the president’s statement. Then we have the mission statement. So we can take a look at the vision statement, any thoughts?

Moving on we have the values statements, which there are 7, any thoughts.

Zach Roy: I feel like we figured most of this out with the feedback.

Jimmy Holmes: The one think I would maybe note is the balance of how much is written under each of them, specifically under diversity and equity as it seems to be a little smaller.

Wendy Polifka: I feel the same way.

Carl Palmer: Especially with the integrity being so short

Rick Valentin: Individualized attention has two sentences, and some of the others are single sentences. Collaboration for instance has 2 and there was a lot of time spent trying to get the right, the ones with more text needed actually more explanation.

Wendy Polifka: Shouldn’t they all be similar lengths, I do not care if they are shortened or lengthened just consistent.

Jeff Helms; I feel this is also troublesome, the ones that are longest also seem to be the ones that had been word smithed the most, especially with these do we want to look at these if there is still time for wordsmithing.

Rick Valentin: With this collaboration was confused to be with just business entities, so more was added to try and clear this up.

The size of the statements do not affect there value, but it might look like this.

Vishal Midha: We might be able to add a sentence like this “With the commitment to these principles ISU actively advocates for social justice and members of the community to have equal opportunities for success.”

Rick Valentin: The feedback is valuable, but this document is more of the final copy and we are here for review. This has been reworked and word smithed many times. The timeline is to bring it to the board of trustees for approval. If it is rejected, it starts to extend the timeline, as it will delay it going to the senate.

Vishal Midha: What is the point of this endorsement?

Rick Valentin: We are endorsing this so that the senate can endorse it later.

Rick Valentin: Lets talk about strategic directions now, these are the four main directions and the areas broken down under them into goals and objectives. Any thoughts on the first one? We did move this one to the top after feedback from groups.

Jeff Helms: Goal A, objective 1 do we want to get students under 4 years, as it could be interpreted this way when we just want to shorten the average and get it closer to 4 years. We can institutionally want to keep this at 4 years, but I wonder with the wording how an outside might read this, confusing it with a parent thinking they might be able to have their kid get a degree in 3 years. In reality, our 5 year graduation rates are pretty good

Jimmy Holmes; I think it is fine that way.

Rick Valentin: Same with transfers as they do not have a concrete time to graduation. This also leads into the idea of taking action on these objectives and working out actions and using the objective. The goal is to have this generalized objective and then move into a more specific action statement.

Jeff Helms: I like this flexibility in something like our mission statement, however, having this flexibility being interpreted in an unintended way could be negative.

Rick Valentin: This plan is important and will be used to make decisions, and interpretation is important.

Anything on strategic direction 2? The term stewardship originally came from the term sustainability from an economic and financial perspective not environmental, and we came up with this term.

Jeff Helms: I appreciate this clarification, as I saw environment and had this same confusion, but how do we keep people reading from having this same confusion.

Rick Valentin: Stewardship, the definition is less defined, as this is a more open term, so responsibility and thinking about future impact but not just through the environment.

Jimmy Holmes: Under Goal B, I know some people have issues with the increase of enrollment of freshman classes. As we do not have the infrastructure in place.

Rick Valentin: This was a talking point as increased enrollment on its own was not a goal.

Jeff Helms: The fall of 2023 had a targeted number of students as an admission goal.

Jeff Helms: The word stewardship does not bother me but the proximity to the word environment is what’s confusing. Should they consider having something added to the environment or changing the word.

Rick Valentin: It is not so much environmental sustainability it is more the environment as physical facilities.

Jeff Helms: When you tie these ideas together, the vast majority of people are going to confuse this as environmental stewardship.

Jimmy Holmes: A different picture could be used to solve this problem.

Rick Valentin: Just this last Thursday the document was delivered with the designs. But this pamphlet display might not be final or how it’s represented online.

Moving on to the next strategic direction, any questions?

Any on the last strategic direction? This last one has internal collaboration which is something new and is extremely helpful in the strategic plan.

Jeff Helms: The word support is not in the document with the statement on interdisciplinary learning.

Rick Valentin: Do we have a motion?

Roll Call

3 Abstentions, and 4 Yes

The endorsement passes.

1. Review Administration Progress Report on *Pedestrian and Vehicular Safety Priority Brief* Recommendations

Rick Valentin: Moving on we have the Pedestrian and Vehicular Safety Priority Brief that was drafted last year, and we are now supposed to review the administration progress report. I am a little fuzzy on this, we can take a look at this, however, it has already been submitted to the exec community. So, we are taking a quick look at this. Did anyone have any responses to the responses?

Jimmy Holmes: The second sentence and the second response saying that the university is a big part of the study what does this mean?

Rick Valentin: When we had the guests in the fall give comments on this it did seem like the university and the town of normal are in communication with this. The university is involved in this as it is part of the equation. The roadway controlled by the university is minimal. The actual official partnership could only occur if they had these controlled areas.

Jeff Helms: Jimmy makes a good point, I think that we should clarify whether or not ISU is working with IDOT and the city of Normal, we need to know if we are having a voice in these and whether or not we have people on these committees. As I personally see issues with some of these concerns. We need to spend some time trying to enforce pedestrian safety.

Jimmy Holmes: The last sentence includes a recommendation to update the campus master plan, but the response does not have a section on this.

Rick Valentin: I am now realizing that this is something that should be talked about with Angela Engel who is involved in the masterplan’s creation. Anything else

Jeff Helms: Under motorized vehicle ban, the response, an email was sent today to Bio and Chem stating that electrics vehicles should not be brought into the facilities, and how do we identify the difference between an ABA need such as a electronic wheelchair and someone with something that does not qualify into this. We need clarification on this.

Rick Valentin: I am somewhat encouraged that some of the response to banning motorized vehicles has been about investigating this. Because of course there is also a company that wants to come in and start having electric scooter rentals.

Rick Valentin: What about some of the responses about some of the other things.

Jeff Helms: I am happy with the way that admin has responded to this section on this.

Rick Valentin: It seems that Mike is all about limiting this.

Jeff Helms; Letting students know what these vehicles are for is also good for PR

Rick Valentin: Next time I saw one that had flashing lights.

Paige Hofstetter: We might want to change the name of the Alamo as it is not the Alamo anymore.

Rick Valentin: The signage about the Constitution trail has some comments on here. Someone maybe this committee needs to initiate a dialogue on this.

Anything else?

Motion to have the response to the Pedestrian and Vehicular Safety Priority Brief be approved.

All in favor.

Rick Valentin: One last thing, the drone policy will be up today as an action item, there are a couple of recommended changes, I want to do a quick vote on a change here. We talked about the appendix with hobbyist versus student hobbyist. The next statement was the first sentence in the private section, this was clarified to be more specific. The next one was about university personnel on our off campus taking all precautions to avoid danger.

Carl Palmer: Does this include students as well?

Jeff Helms: Would anyone flying a uas under this policy follow privacy rules under state and federal law. That way you do not have to talk about off site.

Rick Valentin: Can I get a motion to approve the altered language?

All in favor.

**Adjourn**