**Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee**

**Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, 9/11/19**

**Present:** Arthur Martinez, David Marx, Julie Murphy, German Blanco Lobo, Hannah Beer, Isaac Hollis, Zaria Heath, and Sandy Cavi.

**Absent:** Kaleb Hefford

* Discussion of flag policy
  + There was a task force on 1st amendment issues assembled by the President’s office that worked all of last year.
  + There have been problems with people outside the university coming in and protesting. The entire campus is a free speech zone, but what are the rules if someone from outside the campus wants to come and express their opinions?
  + There must be rules to cover everyone in an equal way. The flag policy only incudes official (US & IL) flags.
  + Questions were raised about the additional flag pole on the quad. It’s controlled by student affairs division, and they have their own policy. We are looking into including student affairs policy in official policy. The university has no official flag.
  + There are a range of controversial flags with large differences… Confederate, Black Lives Matter, Nazi, etc.
  + We don’t want to take away student body’s means of expression. Perhaps they could require voting, signatures, etc.
  + Current policy states that if an RSO or other organization wants to place a flag on the quad there are quality specifications and an application process. The flag will fly for one week, and student affairs decides. We need to think about whether or not the policy should be included in the flag policy.
  + Perhaps we should change the title of the policy to focus only on US and State flags.
* The AABC Committee description was discussed.
* A summary of issues coming up was presented, including the President’s evaluation, the AIF fund, the review of operating budget and capital budget, and the athletics budget.
* Discussion of athletics budget, university funding priorities, and Title IX requirements
  + There was a request to invite the athletic director to discuss breakdown of budget between the sports.
  + The athletics council manages salaries
* Discussion of the academic calendar
  + Faculty would like spring break to match up with local schools
    - The local schools won’t switch their dates.
  + For 35+ years spring break has been exactly in the center of the semester.
  + Should we have a regular fall break more toward the middle, plus a few days around Thanksgiving?
  + Sam Catanzaro says there’s no way to make changes to the current calendar. The executive committee, however, wants us to investigate this. Perhaps we could start later and end later in Spring, enabling a longer winter break and a longer winter session.
  + We must look online at academic calendars for peer institutions across the US. About 5 per person.
  + We also need to investigate how local schools determine break.
* Discussion of Space Management and Planning
  + There was a request from the President’s office to change the nature of the naming committee.
    - They seem mostly concerned with confidentiality
    - They are proposing that the cabinet members can be on the committee
    - Is there a possibility of requiring an NDA from committee members? Ask University Legal?
* Discussion of University and Space Use Policy
  + There is currently no mention of online social media policies.
* For meeting after next, 4 weeks from now, fully read 19-01 and 19-02.
* The meeting was adjourned at 6:58