Planning and Finance Committee Minutes October 12th, 2016

Official meeting cannot be called due to lack of quorum

Tonight the provost will be coming at 6 PM to fill us in about what is going on with academic affairs as well as telling us how we can be useful to the university.

Senator Winger states: we should start talking about the Institutional Priorities Report and then figure out whom we should invite to talk to us about the finances.

It might be more productive and help us develop a schedule so we don’t rush meetings and then hit a deadline for the IPR.

Could a long-range plan include an engineering program?

* Could be a feasible opportunity to explore
* How long would it take to put into effect
* Administration could potentially want to see an effort to creating an engineering program
* Could be a 10-15 year plan
* Opens up opportunity for donations to the university

Other areas such as the nursing school could potentially be an avenue to look at as well.

Quorum Declared at 6 PM

Attendance: Bates, Brauer, Hoit, Ingersoll, Lin, Lonbom, Rafalovitz, Schlatter, Shurhay, Smitley, Winger, Marx, Aquiler, Xu

Absentees: Heylin, Jawalar, Kalter, Munoz

Provost Here to talk about academic affairs

Provost: What is in the office of the academic affairs? The office of the provost has two associate provosts in charge of program reviews. There are associate vice presidents that cover the vast majority of University operations. Director of Civic Engagements was a priority of President Dietz and so a position has been appointed for that. We have taken 3 positions that are vacant and we are not replacing them because of the budget situation. There will be a position added to create a position for compliance of web presence. There are also seven deans.

Winger: is this flow chart updated?

* Yes this has been updated from the three positions that have been taken out

Will the compliance specialist be IT maintenance personnel as well?

* That will be deferred because Charlie will be able to answer that question better than I can

To what level does this compliance have to be? Do all university departments have to be compliant or just the main web presence for the university?

* That person will start from the top and work his/her way down the line and have all departments under compliance.

Current Initiatives:

* Looking at leveraging of resources.

1. Who is doing what in the Office?

2. We had two people out of the office for an extended period of time and we are looking at making sure that those people are efficient.

* Main concern is the Budget Impasse.
* We don’t know what kind of money we will get this year.
* We don’t know how the legislation will frame how we can use the money we have.
* How do we use the money to grow and how do we create the strength for students and use that money to support them most efficiently.
* There are firms that are doing market research but we are looking very carefully to make the right the decision about proceeding with that.

How does that align with the strengths that we already have?

* We would have to see how we can incorporate it all to what we have

High school demographics are going down, we know that we wont have the same enrollment that we currently have.

Ingersoll: is it because people aren’t graduating or because we don’t have the number?

* Because of baby boomers and decreasing amounts of people graduating
* Also losing 16000 students to out of state schools.

Winger: many southern schools have built institutions to keep from their economies from collapsing and we are switching spaces with these states.

We are in really good shape and we are very strong but we must refrain from being complacent. Higher education is changing and there is no way around it and we have to adapt and we have to be more proactive and not reactive.

We are spending a lot of time to figure out how we can realign goals to be more proactive.

How can we use resources so we can spend them to align with our goals?

U of Illinois population consists of 25% from out of the country. We currently have 400 total out of 21,000. We are looking very carefully at 4 or 5 avenues for diversifying that issue so that we can allow our students to travel because many cannot afford to travel. We are also looking at partnerships with different companies as joint ventures. We are exploring what a joint venture will look like. They have recruiters that are placed in 160 different countries and they are able to bring us students and help us recruit to expand and diversify our campus. MOUs are signed with universities in Chinas and only state that we are interested in creating an exchange program. The excitement for that is great from the other universities. It is complex and there are a lot of avenues to explore before we can start bringing students into our University.

Honors’ building hasn’t been updated in years because it wasn’t ADA accessible and so now that they have moved out, we have to start construction there.

Jan Murphy will be moving into the office as interim provost starting January 1st.

Marx: when you said that the office absorbed the budget cut, what were the things that we couldn’t do because we didn’t have the money?

Provost enhancements, every year there is one-time money that is there to do something to Enhance their department (equipment, extra help for a project, extra program, etc.)

Institutional priorities:

Conversation previously hasn’t been aligned with educating Illinois, there are a lot of priorities in a current year but in a year of budget crisis, it is hard to have priorities.

We talked about ways to generate long-term priorities for the universities such as an engineering degree that is bloomed out of the CAST. Could this committee be a seed for investigating the long-range goal and what would be the steps involved rather than the past where there have been shorter-term goals?

If we had an engineering program we would have people looking for the program. What are costs for an engineering program?

It is a very costly engineering program to run

Are we in a position to create these long-term goals?

* Could very well be a possibility but I don’t have the market research experience. We can talk more with the Ex chair of this committee as his role has the manpower and resources to take on this charge. Even if we had the program what would it take to properly launch that?

Would it be beneficial to build on what is already present such as a full fledge PT/OT program?

There has been a vision of having a nursing building since I started working and I don’t know when we will get that building either.

Are there companies like CAT that would like Mechanical engineers from ISU?

I cannot speak to CAT, but I can speak to the fact that there is a great amount of students that have a need to engineering program. Part of the question is also how to provide to international students because one of the first questions that international students have is “is there an engineering school?”

Motion to adjourn at 6:58 PM.