Planning and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 6:00pm

Spotlight Room (Bone Student Center)

Call to Order 6:02pm

Roll Call

Committee:

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| Present | Absent |
| Senator Bonnell, MIL Faculty, Senate Chair | Senator Blanco-Lobo, CAS Faculty |
| Senator Paolucci, PFC Chair | Senator Blum, Off Campus Senator |
| Senator Figueroa Fragoso, Off Campus Senator, PFC Secretary |  |
| Senator Marshack, Faculty |  |
| Senator Torry, Faculty |  |
| Senator Porter, BAA |  |
| Senator Polifka, AVP SA, NON-VOTING |  |
| Senator Nelson, VP FP, NON-VOTING |  |
| Senator Stoner, On Campus Senator |  |
| Senator Cutting, AVP AP |  |
| Senator Pettit, College of Ed Senator |  |

Guest: Dan Taube

Public Comment: None

**Approval of Minutes**  
  
The minutes from April 9, 2025, were available in the Planning and Finance Team folder. As most members had not been present at that meeting, discussion was limited. A motion was made by Senator Paolucci and seconded by Senator Marshack to approve the minutes.

1. **Member Introductions**

Members introduced themselves, including role and area of representation.

2. **Review of Committee Charge**

Chair Paolucci summarized the committee’s formal charge, distilling responsibilities into:

* Following Senate bylaws and the Open Meetings Act
* Electing officers and keeping minutes
* Advising Senate on significant budget issues
* Reviewing allocation of campus resources, budget strategies, and revenue sources

Discussion followed regarding the committee’s role in reviewing and advising on budgetary and resource allocation issues.

3. **Issues Pending List and Priorities**

Former Chair Angela Bonnell reviewed the current Issues Pending List, highlighting the following:

* Policy 9.2: Appropriate Use of Information Technology
  + Drafted last year in collaboration with the Office of General Counsel.
  + Review was delayed due to staffing changes and timeline constraints.
  + Updating remains a top priority for 2025–26.
* Policy 1.7: University Use of Electronic Equipment for Surveillance
  + Outdated policy; reassigned to Planning & Finance due to overlap with Policy 9.2.
  + Requires complete rewriting.
* Facilities and Budget Reports
  + The committee will review the annual Academic Facilities Priority Report and Operating Budget in coordination with Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee.
* GE Road Campus (Buildings 171 and 179)
  + Ongoing review of College of Engineering placement and additional space planning.
  + Further updates anticipated once cabinet planning advances.

Discussion included the role of the Town of Normal, opportunities for collaboration, and prior committee work on pedestrian safety.

4. **GE Road Facilities Update**

Vice President Nelson reported:

* Space Planning Committee collected departmental requests; Facilities drafted preliminary allocation models.
* Cabinet is reviewing potential academic and administrative relocations.
* Goal: minimize renovation costs while maximizing academic capacity.
* Exploring feasibility of solar installation with Siemens to potentially take the building off-grid. Analysis is in progress; urgency due to federal solar tax credit deadline (July 1, 2026).
* Future updates to be shared as feasible.

Discussion included:

* Potential for foundation ownership and leasing models.
* Balancing revenue generation vs. maximizing academic/student use.
* Integration with College of Engineering and possible data center placement.

5. **Presentation: Information Technology Security**

Chief Information Security Officer Dan Taube presented on Policy 9.2: Appropriate Use of Information Technology and cybersecurity risks:

* Threat Landscape: Higher education is among the top three targeted sectors (alongside health and finance).
* Current Policy Status: Existing IT policy dates from the late 1990s/early 2000s and requires urgent updates.
* Threat Model: ISU faces regular phishing attempts and malicious attacks (~3,500 per week sector-wide). Advanced threat actors (e.g., state-sponsored or organized crime groups) target intellectual property, personal data, and financial systems.
* Risk: Cyberattacks, including ransomware, could cost institutions millions in recovery. Example: Western Sydney University incurred $53 million in recovery costs from a student-led breach.
* Next Steps: Updating Policy 9.2 is central to ISU’s cybersecurity strategy. Collaboration with the Senate, General Counsel, and academic stakeholders will be needed.

6. **Adjournment**

Senator Figueroa made the motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Senator Stoner. Chair Paolucci thanked members for their participation and emphasized the importance of continued engagement as the committee addresses pending policy updates and space planning issues.