**Planning & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**

**October 10, 2018**

**Present:** Bates, Ferrance, Hendrix, Kalter, Lacy, Lagunas, Mainieri, Marshall, Noel-Elkins, Roberts, Standridge, Torry, Turner, Solebo

**Not Present:** None

* Call to order
* Roll
* Approval of 9/12 & 9/26 minutes
  + 9/12 Motion Torry second Noel-Elkins Approved with no opposition or abstentions
  + 9/26 Motion Torry second Turner Approved pending changes with no opposition or abstentions
* Debrief of 9/26 budget and appropriation request presentation
  + What were our big take aways? Any items that came up in the presentation that we should consider placing on our priorities list?
  + 450 million dollar deferred maintenance, where does that put us ten years out, particularly if no capital money?
  + Performance based funding – performance measures shouldn’t be the same for all universities across the state – graduating in 6-7 years is great in some circumstance rather than forcing into one metric
  + Current capacity of the dorms at 105% with enrollment increases – current housing study and facilities master plan looking to address this issue
  + Are there misconceptions on campus about how the long range plan priorities are handled (particularly items listed as ‘not under consideration’)
    - Priority list vs the emergencies that come up
    - Comes down to effective communication about these issues
  + Items related to capital funding and capital renewal raise the stakes on the committee’s priority item about decreasing state funding
* Foundation policy update
  + We had reviewed the policy last Spring and received input from Pat Vickerman about the policy
  + Answer indicated that the Foundation would be updating their by laws this Fall – email in to Pat Vickerman as to timeline of bylaws update
  + Makes sense to hold our final review of the policy until after the by-laws update in case any bylaws changes necessitated changes in the policy
  + Idea would be to send the policy to Pat again after by laws complete for his review then our review, then on to exec
* Administrative costs issue
  + Update about data available
    - Cera compiled a break down of state appropriated funds by classification for every year since 1993
    - Proposed approach: our task first to be to review that data to identify trends and, possibly, compare with other institutions then determine where we need to go from there
  + Decision about how to move forward with issue
    - Chair suggestion: we form a subcommittee to accomplish the initial review and bring the results back to the committee
    - Thoughts? Questions?
      * Is this just for an advisory item for Senate? Depends on what the committee finds
      * Concerns over committee members’ time especially given that we are short committee members
      * Are there tasks of being asked of administrators that are causing faculty to do tasks that we weren’t being asked to in previous years?
      * If it isn’t financial, might be a perception issue?
      * What is the driver and what can be done about it?
    - Who would be willing to serve on a sub committee
      * Kalter
      * Mainieri
      * Ferrence
* Committee priorities
  + Discussion of survey results
    - Survey completed by seven committee members since last meeting showed the top four priorities in this order:
      * Enable more students to enter desired majors
      * Increase the number and value of student scholarships and financial aid
      * Increase the number of quality online degree programs
      * Increase the number and amount of graduate stipends
    - Discussion about priorities and how to proceed
      * How do we go about raising faculty salaries? What are the items that this committee can most impact?
      * Since the fine arts complex is already approved, concerns regarding how we can impact that priority
        + We had agreed as a committee at the beginning of the semester that one of our reports would include a statement supporting the administration as they continue to pursue full release of appropriated funds for the project
      * Amount of scholarships and financial aid is pressing for returning students
      * One item to consider as priorities are set is how long each priority may take to fully consider so we can perhaps tackle more than one priority before the end of the school year
        + What can be done this year and how long will each take?
        + In terms of what should be tackled first or second, consider the guests we would need to call upon and when their busiest times are
      * What impact can be made on the quality online programs priority if we have many different departments/schools who each need to make a decision about online programming?
        + Can there be a set definition or is there a set definition of quality for online programs on campus?
        + Having the committee explore this issue could be a great educational opportunity to improve our knowledge on approaches to online education
        + Some of that work has been done via the distance education task force
      * Consensus that the top priorities to consider at the start are
        + Enable more students to enter desired majors
        + Increase the number and value of student scholarships and financial aid
      * Priorities list will be revisited after each priority is finished
      * Decision to move forward with financial aid priority first given that this time of the semester would be better timing for representatives from Financial Aid to support the committee’s explorations
  + Next meeting will be a planning meeting for how the committee would like to explore this priority
    - For next meeting, committee members should come with ideas about
      * Guests to invite for the priority
      * Questions we would need answered/what we would like guests to address
      * Areas of concern in regards to the priority