Planning and Finance Committee Minutes September 13, 2017

Members Present: Wendy Bates, Tony Crowley, Susan Kalter, Alan Lacy, Samantha Lewis, Tracy Mainieri, Arthur Martinez, David Marx, Dimitrios Nikolaou, Amelia Noel-Elkins, Michael Rubio, Joe Standridge

Members Absent: Amanda Hendrix, Patricia Hoit, Jackson Pryhuber, Zach Schaab

Meeting called to order: 6:03pm

Senator Marx gave welcoming remarks.

Senator Marx updated the committee on the committee reviewing the potential for new engineering programs that have been meeting since early spring.

The committee reviewed the description of the Planning and Finance Committee given in the Senate Blue Book. A discussion of the recent history of the committee and its focus on producing the annual Institutional Priorities Report (IPR) followed.

Senator Crowley suggested that last year’s priorities be utilized this year.

Some new priority suggestions include:

* Faculty professional development
* Investing/saving
* Developing a cultural competent community
* SRCC, student affairs, facilities
* International students
* Possibly speaking to Brent Patterson on ways to improve campus wide cultural competency.
* Improving the effectiveness of Milner Library
* State funding
* Session on the topic of library funding
* Repurposing underused spaces
* Computer labs
* Separate teaching and research tenure tracks

Senator Rubio raised concerns on the lack of courses offered during winter sessions. Senator Rubio also raised the issue of department advisors having large caseloads. He suggests having a priority on upperclassmen.

Senator Marx informed the committee that in the final 5 meetings in the spring, the committee will need to hash out the priorities report and have it ready for senate in April and suggested to bring in President Dietz to speak to the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm