

Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee

Annual Report - May 6, 2015

I. October 15, 2014

Present: J. Artiss, J. Sawasky, R. Ackerman, I Avrutsky, M. Barnes, K. Kumasi, H. Matthew, L. Pile, T.R. Reddy.

The chair presented the list of subjects that were forwarded from the Policy Committee for FSST to consider. In addition the committee agreed to find up to eight (8) good used laptops for the HIGH program. C&IT ensured that the donated systems would be scrubbed clean, checked over and loaded with the appropriate software.

The topic of student/faculty/staff daycare also generated considerable discussion. A subcommittee to research the need for daycare on campus was struck. Committee members include Mr. Artiss (chair), Mr. Sawasky, Ms. Kumasi and Ms. Pile.

Mr. Sawasky reported that Academica is a made in WSU product intended to replace the aging and costly Pipeline. C&IT is working with Tech Commercialization to market Academica to other institutions. It runs in the Amazon Cloud to keep costs down and to increase flexibility. Academica will also have built in social networking capabilities. C&IT is working on Lams Appointment software which is intended to make scheduling with advisors quicker, simpler and more efficient. They are exploring ways to improve the SET Score data. Degree Works is intended to improve student planning of a pathway to graduation.

II. November 12, 2014

Present: J. Artiss, J. Sawasky, R. Ackerman, I Avrutsky, M. Barnes, K. Kumasi, H. Matthew, J. Moseley, L. Pile, T. R. Reddy

Dean S. Yee, M. Brockmeyer and A. Bartlett presented an update on recent classroom renovations. Dean Yee has used special one-time funding to upgrade classrooms on the second floor of Manoogian. FP&M requested that Dean Yee involve faculty in all of the decisions that went into the renovations including the selection of furniture and equipment. It was noted that FSST was involved the previous year. The rooms were equipped to do echo recording but we do not have the appropriate equipment/software to carry on interactive conferencing. The suggestion was made that we should try to use student art wherever possible. Dean Yee agreed to take that under consideration. Unfortunately, the newly renovated rooms on the fourth floor of State Hall have been under-utilized. Dean Yee requested the committee members assist her in spreading the word to the faculty about the quality of these rooms. New scheduling software may resolve this problem. Pictures of most of the renovated rooms are available on the library website. During the summer and fall of 2014 three classrooms in Education were to be renovated. The University is asking Lansing for funds to convert the Science Library into STEM laboratories. As this is a repurposing of an existing building Lansing is looking favorably at the request. Dean Yee is looking into video conferencing.

A draft of a proposed survey on the needs for daycare was presented and was accepted by the committee. Mr. Artiss was to present the survey to Policy Committee and ask permission to send it to all faculty, staff and students. The question of eldercare was raised by one of the senators. It was decided that we would start with daycare.

Mr. Barnes raised concerns about recycling or lack thereof on campus as well as the lack of outdoor lighting for example at the Hilberry Theatre. Mr. Artiss asked Mr. Sears to address both of these matters at the December meeting.

III. December 10, 2014

Present: J. Artiss, J. Sawasky, R. Ackerman, I Avrutsky, M. Barnes, K. Kumasi, J. Moseley, L. Pile, T. Bazzi, D. Golodner

James Sears, Associate VP, FP&M presented the Capital Outlay Budget Requests and the Overall WSU Facilities Master Plan. A list of the projects and estimated costs was presented by Mr. Sears. The Science and Engineering Library will be repurposed. As it shares a heating and cooling system with Chemistry, costs will be reduced and the State looks favorably on repurposing buildings. The new iBio building is scheduled to be complete within six months. The DeRoy apartments have a major problem with flooding every time it rains. The University was part of a successful class action law suit pertaining to substandard mortar but the problem itself has yet to be addressed. Funding for capital projects will come from a variety of sources including philanthropy and the State. Mr. Sears thanked the committee for its interest and input into the recently completed projects in Manoogian and State Halls. Mr. Sears and the chair agreed to work towards developing a mechanism whereby faculty could have input into the selection and prioritization of the capital projects.

Donald Wrench, Director, Facilities Operations, presented a recycling report from Advanced Disposal for the month of October 2014. This report was generated by Advanced Disposal, the company that manages the University's waste. Mr. Wrench estimated that we are averaging about 12.5% of the materials that could be recycled, which is about one-half of the national average. Mr. Wrench asked for suggestions on how to increase the rate of recycling. Several members felt there are too few recycle bins on campus and in the buildings, and that the bins were not adequately labeled (*e.g.*, are you supposed to place plastic bottles in the bins labeled "cans," especially if there are no bins labeled "plastic"?).

Mr. Bazzi mentioned that some of his colleagues in the Student Senate were investigating complaints of hate e-mails targeting LGBTQ students in the residences. Mr. Barnes volunteered to put the student representatives in touch with the appropriate administrative liaisons.

IV. January 14, 2015

Present: J. Artiss, J. Sawasky, R. Ackerman, I Avrutsky, K. Kumasi, H. Matthew, L. Pile, T. R. Reddy, T. Bazzi, D. Golodner

Ned Staebler, VP Economic Development, discussed the M1 Rail project and its anticipated impact on WSU. In his opinion, the M1 project will have a minimal but positive affect on WSU. In the past two years sixty new businesses have opened in Midtown, these businesses should be helped by M1 which in turn will benefit the university. Currently there is a very popular shuttle bus

between the main campus and the downtown running on Friday nights, once the M1 is up and running the shuttle will become unnecessary. It is hoped that the M1 will also reduce some of the automobile traffic around the campus but this relies somewhat on the availability of parking at the south end of the line. There is a faculty group that is trying to secure funding to study the effects of the light rail service. The university is exploring the possibility of opening some of its parking lots during off hours for validated and/or valet parking. This service would be targeted at people coming from the suburbs who may want to avoid the downtown traffic by parking at the university and then boarding the M1. In addition Mr. Staebler mentioned that a bike sharing program will be starting in 2016. The university is discussing a Park and Ride program with SMART. The university is also exploring the possibility of significant discounts for students using the various regional public transportation systems.

V. February 11, 2015

Present: J. Artiss, R. Ackerman, I Avrutsky, K. Kumasi, L. Pile, T. Bazzi, D. Golodner

The Chair presented the results of the survey sent to all members of the WSU community that was conducted between December 4, 2014 and January 14, 2015. There were 1,848 individuals who completed the survey which exceeded our target of 1,000. More than half of the respondents were students (graduate and undergraduate). Most (1,559) of the respondents were from the main campus although there were an additional 254 from the SOM. A majority of respondents currently rely on friends and family for taking care of their child/children while at WSU. Eight hundred and fifty-three (853) respondents answered that they would use a safe, convenient and affordable on-campus daycare center immediately. Most of the students appear to want fewer than 20hrs/wk while most of the faculty and staff appear to require 20-40hrs/wk. Equal numbers of respondents require daycare during the mornings and afternoons while about one-third require evenings. The majority of respondents would prefer to pay hourly as opposed to a 20 or 40hr/wk plan. 38% of all respondents and 46% of student respondents live within 10 miles of campus which indicates 55-60% of respondents are commuting over 10 miles to WSU. Discussion followed as to where a center might be located. The chair agreed to speak with Jim Sears about this. There was general consensus that an on-campus daycare would aid in the recruitment and retention of students, staff and faculty. The chair agreed to invite Anna Miller of the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute Early Childhood Center to speak at the March FSST meeting.

Mr. Bazzi reported that the LGBTQA committee had met with the President, Provost and BOG. There is a meeting in March with Dr. Chamblee to look into establishing a new resource center on campus as the existing facility is not very functional.

Ms. Pile raised concerns over the updated Travel Wayne software. Several of the members confirmed that apart from the aesthetics little had changed and that the software was still very difficult to use. Ms. Pile suggested that, in light of the Academica software, C&IT be encouraged to develop an in-house solution.

VI. March 11, 2015

Present: J. Artiss, R. Ackerman, I Avrutsky, M. Barnes, K. Kumasi, J. Moseley, L. Pile, T. Bazzi

Anna G. Miller of the Merrill Palmer Skillman Early Childhood Center presented a detailed description of the Centers that are located at 4500 Cass Ave. and 87 E. Ferry. The centers were established in 1922 as lab schools that provide research services to numerous researchers on campus. Programs are offered to preschoolers aged 2½-5 years of age from September to May. Enrollment of children in the various research studies is not a requirement. The centers are considered to be demonstration sites for best practices and carry a five star rating from the Great Start to Quality organization. Ms. Miller stated that they recognized the need for expanded services on-campus and felt that given the space that they would be able to scale-up.

Mr. Bazzi presented a resolution that was being presented to the BOG encouraging WSU to establish a permanent, centrally-located LGBTQA Resource Center. He also gave the committee a copy of screen captures from a Facebook page that inappropriately targeted a gay student. The chair offered to contact Mr. Sawasky (absent from the meeting) and inquire if there was an investigative protocol in place for such matters. In speaking with Mr. Sawasky the next day, the chair was informed that there is in fact a very well established protocol in place that is initiated by the student complaining to the office of the Dean of Students.

In response to a concern expressed by one of the members, the chair conducted an informal survey of the senators who were present and none had heard of the toner cartridge recycling program that Daryl Pierson had informed him was in place. Mr. Bazzi had to leave the meeting early in order to attend a previously scheduled meeting with Mr. Pierson and would raise the issue with him.

VII. April 8, 2015

Present: J. Artiss, R. Ackerman, I Avrutsky, M. Barnes, K. Kumasi, H. Matthew, J. Moseley, L. Pile, T. Bazzi, D. Golodner, J. Sawasky, G. Nathan, K. Hayes

Geoff Nathan, C&IT Faculty Liaison and IT Policy Wonk, Kevin Hayes, Information Security Officer presented their recently developed program that will be mandatory for all faculty and staff who have access to Banner. WSU is subject to millions of cyber-attacks per week, all but a few of which have been successfully blocked. Their presentation was very well received by the committee members who received a certificate for their attendance.

The chair informed the committee that a 2N committee was being struck to look into on-campus daycare.

Travel Wayne continues to be an issue. Mr. Sawasky will be sending the committee's concerns to Geoff Nathan because of his involvement as C&IT faculty liaison with the working groups (Information Technology Steering Committee and Information Systems Management Committee) that are exploring problems with Concur.

Mr. Bazzi presented a report on a recycling program that he has initiated through the Student Senate. He asked for the support of FSST in moving forward with recycling on campus.

Mr. Bazzi reported that the Student Senate was satisfied that the LGBTQA matters were being addressed by Dr. Chamblee and that she was arranging for a new LGBTQA coordinator.

Senator Barnes added that he had spoken with the LGBTQA faculty sponsor and passed along their comments and concerns. As some of these concerns involve how name and gender changes are handled in WSU's various databases, Mr. Sawasky will be looking into these matters with C&IT.