

**Wayne State University Academic Senate  
Facilities, Support Services and Technology Committee  
Proceedings from the Wednesday December 8, 2021 via Zoom**

**Present:** F. Al-Mufarrej, Paul Beavers, Dan Golodner, Brian Edwards, Erica Edwards, Nasrin Nisha, Mary Paquette-Abt, Avraham Raz, Jeff Withey

**Absent:** Melissa Crabtree, Paul Dubinsky, Elizabeth Drake, Lisa O'Donnell, Michael Samson, Jennifer Stockdill

**Guest:** Sean Campbell, Ashley Flintoff, Mark Gibbons

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 via ZOOM.
2. The Proceedings from November 17, 2021 were approved.
3. An initial discussion on registrations for Winter 2022. It was noted that undergraduate rates are holding but graduate rates are very poor.
4. A discussion on the renovation of State Hall (SH) took place with
  - Ashley Flintoff, Director of Planning and Space Management
  - Sean Campbell, Facilities Planner
  - Mark Gibbons, Construction Project Manager
  - a. As part of the planning process, they had conducted a faculty survey on the issues with SH. Over 350 responses from 13 different colleges (see attached for full details).
  - b. Among the results were flexible classrooms and collegial spaces.
  - c. They noted that the building, especially the lecture halls are not ADA compliant. In fact, they are hazardous.
  - d. They provide a full description of some of the ideas and concepts that they are planning to incorporate.
  - e. The renovation will incorporate major construction such as moving walls, removing polls, some new windows, doors that meet with ADA requirements, replacing the flooring, open space for meetings and re-envisioning the classrooms and lecture halls.
  - f. Please see the FFST 12.8.21.PDF (36 pages) attached.
  - g. A construction manager and contractor have been appointed and is working with the Facilities team on finalizing the plan.
  - h. The building was built in 1947 with an add on in 1954.
  - i. A general discussion on ADA requirements followed. The point was made that the law only requires a minimum and that with the redesign they are the opportunity to try and incorporate designs and use to ensure that we get the maximum benefit.

- j. There was a question on cost and approvals. As noted, the Board of Governors have approved the bond issue to cover construction.
- k. It was agreed that the team would come back to the committee in February to discuss progress and other aspects of the design.

5. Update Canvas

- a. Based on a meeting with Nathan Cavez to discuss the Canvas broadcast email notifications, there is no way to stop them.
  - i. Each time a change is made a student gets a notification.
  - ii. The only way to prevent it is to take the class offline. Make the changes and then re-publish the class.
  - iii. As individuals we can limit the number of email notifications we receive but it is up to the individual, which includes students.
- b. Canvas is designed to be flexible. If there are 100 faculty users, then each course can be set up different.
- c. It was noted that changes to the Canvas infrastructure are limited and controlled by them.
- d. It was suggested that the OTL and the Canvas group develop a learning package especially for new faculty and students.

- Attachments