December 6, 2023

Note taker: Erin Comartin

Attendees: Pramod Khosla, Tamme Quinn-Grzebyk, Karin Tarpenning, Cynthera McNeill, Veronica Fahmi, Erin Comartin, renee hoogland, Heather Abraham, Elizabeth Stoycheff, and Georgia Michalopoulou.

A. Approval of the minutes from last month

B. Ashley Flintoof presented about the first pass of buildings for faculty club. Initial pass includes buildings that are currently empty or are the easiest to move out. No costing has been done yet. That comes after one or two have been identified. Ashley will send slides with notes to renee.

  a. Music Annex- near heart of the core campus. First floor has lovely large open spaces with great daylight. First floor has some good floor. Wayne framework in 2019 identified this as a faculty club. Negatives- there are fewer external food options, not enough space to have stand alone dining. Catering could happen. Issue of accessibility: no elevator, ramp. Is a historic house, Strasberg House. Music has not used it for a least a decade.

  b. Mackenzie House- near Hilberry Gateway. Has a history, one of the founders of the university. Historic house. Mackenzie was known to have speakers come into this house to give talks. Poetic connection for a faculty club. Nice first floor with an open concept. Good access to external food options, could do catering. No inhouse dining function. On edge of campus, but still close. Requires work for accessibility.

  c. Donaldson House- between welcome center and 5057. Largest option- it is long and narrow. There is more space to have dedicated dining area. Great visibility on Woodward. Directly behind parking structure 6. This will be the most expensive given size and length of vacancy. Not sure if there is a poetic history. Marie Donaldson was the owner- had a connection with the city or government.

  d. 60 W. Hancock- Not vacant. With impending new health sciences building coming, the current function could move back to medicine building. Parking is not an issue here. Close to external food options, does not have the visibility. No history.

  e. Thoughts from faculty:

    1. Mackenzie House has the best parking option of Parking #8. Which would be easier for Med school and Business school faculty to park. Parking structure #3 is also easy in and out.

    2. Agreement on liking the poetic nature of Mackenzie House.

    3. Like the visibility of Donaldson. Like the Q-line there. Closer to Med and B school.

    4. No character to Hancock.

    5. Will tour Music Annex, Donaldson House, and Mackenzie House.

    6. Meet at Strasberg House on Wednesday January 17th at 11:30am.

C. Renee asked if there were any thoughts or concerns about the AI presentation that she can send to the AI committee. We will keep this on the agenda to revisit in future meetings.

a. How should faculty handle it when a student has used it and the syllabus does not allow it.

b. What if applicants use it for admissions?

c. What should be done if a faculty member uses it for publications?

d. Should outcome be mitigated by how the student/faculty used it (i.e. for improving writing vs. for creating content).

D. Faculty well-being

a. With more students with mental health issues and students who disappear.

b. Workload increases are out of control.

c. Wondering if block tuition is impacting students dropping off one or two classes.

E. Recruitment/marketing. Guest: Carolyn Berry

a. Fact finding mission to understand recruitment and the burden it puts on faculty who are being increasingly asked to do this. Asked Carolyn here to talk bout who does this in the university.

b. Schools and colleges communicators are positions in each unit that hold responsibilities for marketing. This is how requests are rolled out from the university to each school.

c. At the university level the asks that are going out are mostly related to the university website. A few things that are important is that content is accurate, particularly about the academic programs. Things that could bring this to life are quotes from students and videos. There have been asks to faculty to review updates that have been made. There may be asks for faculty participation in the videos. There was a push to update faculty profiles, with pictures and information was valid.

d. Undergraduate level- most events are handled by advisors. The advisors are taxed and overwhelmed, so they are leaning on the faculty to help. This is happening at some schools and colleges. There are some events where faculty have historically been asked to help with K-12 programming. They are on hold for the spring because of the cost.

e. In med school, faculty are being asked to help with email recruitment.

f. Elizabeth asked how to get a student highlighted in marketing campaigns.

g. There is no dedicated social media staff member at the university level. There is reliance on students.

h. There seem to be limited asks coming from the university level. Renee said tasks have been devolving onto faculty in recent hears for recruitment and retention. To deal with the problem of students not coming back the second year, should not be a hard push on faculty to retain them, but to spend time figuring out why they are not coming back.

i. There is not consistent recruitment at the graduate level. Recruitment happens within each units' graduate program. This might change with the hiring of the new enrollment

head. There was a proposal to implement a first year course for all students on reading, writing and critical thinking. This was not supported by administration.

j. Erica Jackson from undergraduate admissions may also be helpful here. Darryl Gardner may be good to speak with for retention. We should invite Darryl to come first.

k. Elizabeth asked about the comment made when Carolyn presented at Senate last year, stating that our communications staff is 1/3 of other same sized universities. President Espy has hired a consultant to assess if there are resources to increase this. There are also increasing needs when "crisis" events on campus happen, which pulls communications staff away from other tasks.

F. Adjourned.