

Approved December 15, 2010

FAEC

December 8, 2010

ASB 230

Members Present: President Jim Morley, Sam Mustafa, Alex Olbrecht, Jillian Weiss, Max Goldberg, Jeremy Teigen, Eric Haye, Elaine Risch, Marcia Sexton (recorder)

Members Absent: Ruma Sen

Guests: President Peter Mercer

1. Approve minutes: minutes for the December 1 meeting will be approved via email.

Part 1. 9:15 - 10:10

2. G wing renovation

President Morley updated Council on his meeting with the architects this morning and expressed his concern with the practice of spreading faculty offices across campus. The current project to renovate the G building and build a 2 story addition for the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence is budgeted around \$54 million. The suggestion of adding 2 additional floors to the Adler Center would cost up to \$17 million. Councilor Weiss presented a packet of information on the College's Moody's rating, financial outlook, and relevant Board of Trustees policies. Members present participated in a general discussion on these topics in preparation for discussion with President Mercer at 10:15am.

3. Gov Review Committee presentation next week

The Governance Review Committee will present their proposed revised Bylaws at the December 15 information meeting. President Morley will send out reminder emails prior to the meeting. All units should have received attachments from the GRC unit representatives with the proposals. A vote by paper ballot will take place following the January 19, 2011, Faculty Assembly per the current Bylaws. Executive Council will meet following the information meeting in preparation for the January 19 Assembly. The meeting will be at 1:30pm, place TBA.

4. Proposed new business motion.

President Morley met with Professor Fowler regarding Councilor Teigen's proposed compromise. Professor Fowler wants her original motion for new business to go forward. Councilor Weiss reminded members that the current Bylaws provide for a petition of 20 faculty from 3 schools to override an Executive Council decision. Council took a vote whether to place Professor Fowler's motion on the agenda of the Assembly or not. Results are: 0 in favor, 6 against, 2 abstain. The motion will not be moved forward.

5. Information items

A) Executive Council will meet on December 15, 2010, at 1:30pm following the GRC information meeting. Place: TBA.

B) Councilor Teigen has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in Tblisi, Georgia, for Fall 2011. A temporary At-Large Councilor will be needed.

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10:10-10:15 - Small break

Part 2 - 10:15-11:00 - Meeting with President Mercer

1. Assurance that SSHS will have an appropriate place in the G wing renovations.

President Morley welcomed President Mercer to the meeting and expressed concern over the perception that SSHS was considered an afterthought in planning the G building renovations. President Mercer will be meeting with SSHS this afternoon at 1:00pm to rectify the perception. Renovation of the science labs have always been a high priority and SSHS was never part of the initial cosmetic campaign in part due to the labs and the expansion of the nursing program. President Mercer admitted that SSHS was an afterthought but is now providing input into the planning. There was brief discussion on the need for all affected parties participating in planning, proportionality of space, and what might be moved into the space currently occupied by the nursing program.

2. Discussion of suggested procedures for future building programs to include 'living' architectural input from the college community. (Developing an Academic Commons could serve as our new paradigm.)

President Mercer reminded Council that not all capital improvements needed faculty input however any academic space needed input from all academic players. Functional input especially in terms of classroom layouts, etc. will be welcome.

3. Financial questions about G wing and servicing our debt. (This weekend's NYT article was unnerving to some.)

Councilor Weiss presented Moody's review of the College's financial outlook and President Mercer reported that the Standard and Poor's current rating was Positive. Everyone present participated in a brief discussion on borrowing funds, paying down debt, and fundraising. The current capital improvement fee is expected to generate up to \$5 million. The G building project is budgeted at \$54 million when assignable square footage is expected to increase by 10%. Ongoing costs of operating this larger space were also discussed.

4. Ways to develop appropriate dialog between faculty, the foundation, and other administrative offices.

President Morley reiterated that faculty would like to be more involved in consultation with the Foundation and/or Administration especially in terms of academic excellence. President Mercer reminded Council that he calls in Deans and/or faculty as needed when applying for grants, soliciting donations, etc. Vice President Cathy Davey will be meeting with Council at one of the January meetings.

5. Further queries regarding the reduction of once per week classes.

There was brief discussion on reducing the number of classes taught once per week in terms of pedagogical issues, faculty/student engagement, and faculty presence on campus. Classroom space at peak times was mentioned along with adjunct scheduling and night classes.

Submitted by M. Sexton, December 9, 2010