Minutes  
Wednesday, February 17, 2016  
8:15-9:50 a.m. Old Main Boardroom


Guests: R. Mackey, T. Miller, R. Smith

Call to Order  
Co-Chair R. Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of February 3, 2016  
The minutes of February 3, 2016 were approved with one abstention.

Updates  
G. Goldman informed the Committee that the issue of a student athletic fee has been tabled for this year. The athletic department will gather more specific information about the costs associated with the areas that need updating, and possible phasing of renovations before addressing a student athletic fee in the future. T. Miller thanked the administration for listening to student and faculty concerns around the fee.

V. Del Casino, Chair of the Honors Re-Envisioning Task Force said that the committee has met to begin discussions on a vision for the UA Honors College. The group is currently developing an open ended survey for stakeholders. Del Casino is planning on discussing the task force’s progress and getting input from SPBAC members at an April SPBAC meeting. The task force is working on a high level plan that will help inform the future dean of the Honors College when that position is filled.

Co-Chair Galilee-Belfer reported that the Non-tenure Track task force will be presenting their findings in a brief report prior to the structured discussion at the March Faculty Senate meeting. Over 1400 faculty members at the UA participated in the survey.

Co-Chair Richardson asked G. Goldman if any progress had been made on changes dealing with financial policies, practices, and reporting discussed at SPBAC earlier in the academic year. Goldman responded that a memo will be sent soon, with implementation of Phase One starting in July.

M.L. Brown updated the Committee on postdocs. Job title variations have made identifying the 500+ postdocs at the UA a challenge. Now that a survey of the group has been completed, efforts are underway to provide better professional development programs and mentoring. The need for a staff position to coordinate postdoc programming has been identified, and efforts are
ongoing between K. Espy’s Office of Research and the Graduate College to determine how best to structure/place such a position. Co-Chair Galilee-Belfer asked that the list of postdocs be shared with the colleges to help them better identify and support postdocs too.

A. Vaillancourt thanked members for their comments on policy update documents sent for SPBAC review. She asked that any further comments be forwarded to her by the end of the week, and explained that a new policy portal is being finalized so that all UA policies are available on one site. Her office is also working to clean up existing policies in multiple areas to make sure they reflect current practices. Vaillancourt sought SPBAC feedback on a possible Policy Committee charged with updating and verifying current policies.

Co-Chair Richardson updated the members concerning the affirming of Galilee-Belfer and his appointment as co-chairs for a second two-year term. Members discussed the distinction between votes needed from the voting members of SPBAC as part of shared governance and voluntary input from the ex officio non-voting members.

A. Vaillancourt updated the members on the Chief Diversity Officer search. Ten candidates have been invited for Skype interviews from a field of nearly 100 applicants. The search committee is pleased with the search progress and group of candidates, many of whom seem excited about the opportunities here at the UA.

From Vision to Reality-A new approach to UA Master planning: Peter Dourlein, Assistant VP of Planning, Design & Construction; Bob Smith, VP of Business Affairs; and Rodney Mackey, Associate Director of Planning & Design

Smith introduced the presentation by showing members the difference between traditional campus facilities master planning and the current effort, centered around the four pillars of the Never Settle strategic plan. Smith thanked the many administrators that have worked to develop the new master plan. As with most plans, this masterplan is fluid as the needs of the University change. As examples, Smith highlighted the Banner merger and the impact of new privately funded student high-rise apartments. He also reminded members how moving students from surrounding areas onto campus improves engagement and retention as well as addresses issues of lack of available parking. While Smith covered the overall UA masterplan, members focused questions on off-campus locations like UA South, Downtown Tucson and Phoenix. Smith said that although these campuses do not fall within the footprint of the main campus, they are very much part of the overall plan. Smith talked about public/private building opportunities, and G. Goldman clarified that while the UA receives constant suggestions about new buildings and facilities, and each is taken seriously, the UA is guided by whether or not such partnerships will improve the student experience and retention and other aspects of Never Settle.

V. Del Casino shared that it would be good if the UA thought about online and digital learning in the same strategic manner as is traditional for master planning physical facilities, and that the growth of UA’s online and digital learning presence would impact UA’s physical facility needs in the future. Smith acknowledged the impact that online and digital learning could have on master plans, and welcomed the comments.

Members discussed issues around the future plans for more bicycles and bike paths on campus.

Discussion followed about UA gateways and their importance not only for the on campus community but for people driving down from Phoenix or coming from I10 or the airport. These types of discussions involve not only the UA, but others, including the city of Tucson.
Members discussed the pros and cons of refurbishing versus building new facilities around campus. Smith explained that the state has not provided the needed funds for regular maintenance. Some aging facilities can be updated, but some will have to be torn down eventually because of antiquated electricity and plumbing. Goldman explained that Responsibility Centered Management (RCM) is promoting a rethinking of the use of space and refurbishing. Replacing an old building with a new one does not necessarily increase revenue, may take revenue away during construction, and involves increased debt. Smith explained that the state’s June’s capital development plan concerns more immediate needs and that September is the time for long-term planning. Goldman explained that plans need to be far-reaching—10-15 years out, but flexible to the changing ideas of learning and teaching. He also emphasized the value of involving faculty, staff, students and the community. Finally, members affirmed the importance of open/green space.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Future Meetings
March 2, 2016     8:15 am – 9:50 am     Old Main Boardroom
March 16, 2016    CANCELLED-SPRING BREAK
April 6, 2016     8:15 am – 9:50 am     Old Main Boardroom
April 20, 2016    8:15 am – 9:50 am     Old Main Boardroom