University Advisory Council
Minutes
Friday, November 30, 2018
2:15 p.m.

In attendance: Dr. Ronald Nowaczyk, Dr. Doris Santamaria-Makang (representing Dr. Liz Throop), Mr. Michael Sheetz (representing Mr. Leon Wyden), Dr. Thomas Bowling, Mr. John Short, Mr. Al Delia, Ms. Arlene Cash, Mr. Brad Nixon, Dr. Ben Norris, Dr. Carol Gaumer, Dr. Mike Flinn, Chief Cindy Smith, Ms. Stacey Utley-Bernhardt, Mr. Benjamin Forrest, Ms. Jenna Puffinburger, Ms. Emma Duncan

Excused absence: Dr. Jay Hegeman

1. Meeting was called to order by Dr. Thomas Bowling

2. Minutes from November 2, 2018 UAC meeting were approved

3. Brief updates from Governance Groups:

   a. Staff Senate - Ms. Stacey Utley-Bernhardt reported that the deadline for the Staff Senate survey was November 16 but results have not been tallied. Discussion still being held on a joint effort with Faculty Senate on the Ombudsperson system. The Council of University System Staff (CUSS) is accepting nominations for the USM Board of Regents Staff Awards. These Staff Awards represent the highest honor bestowed by the Regents for achievements of Exempt and Nonexempt employees from USM institutions. Nominations are first considered at an institutional level before being forwarded to the CUSS USM Board of Regents Staff Awards and Recognition Committee for final selection. Heather Killeen, Human Resources Specialist will head the Internal Staff Awards Review Committee. Nominations are due December 17, 2018.

   b. SGA – Mr. Benjamin Forrest reported the total to date raised for the Bobcat Statue is at $5,485 with 20% of that total being raised from students. The Town Gown Committee ordinance will be discussed at the next City meeting scheduled in January 2019. A safety walk will be conducted when the weather permits. SGA has opened their reserve account. Faculty and Staff can request recommendations by applying on-line with a closing date of December 4, 2018.

   c. Faculty Senate – Dr. Ben Norris reported that the results of this years Faculty Morale survey will be distributed next week. Noted that changes to the Honorary Degree Policy were passed at the last Faculty Senate meeting.
4. Cabinet Level Updates:

a. Academic Affairs – Dr. Doris Santamaria-Makang submitted updates for Dr. Liz Throop. CLAS Dean Search is on-going. One candidate has visited with another scheduled the week of December 3 and the third coming early the following week. The announcement of the selection of the candidate for the vacant Associate Provost internal search will be announced next week. Revision continues on the GEP project with its collection and analysis of data. The Middle States monitoring report has been accepted and FSU is in good standing with our regional accreditor. The rumor spreading “not allowing independent studies for the spring” is completely false. Planning for the new Education and Health Science Building continues. The E-portfolio and digital badging initiatives continues to be developed.

b. Administration and Finance – no report

c. Enrollment Management – Ms. Arlene Cash reported that Intersession registration is on-going. Spring 2019 semester early enrollment count is down in numbers. Looking at the reasons why students are withdrawing and not registering and ways to assist the students is in the process.

d. Regional Development – Mr. Al Delia reported that the FSU Listening Sessions are now completed. The Regional Economic Development Committee will meet at FSU on December 3 to talk and plan regional marketing. Allegany County is in the process of developing the County’s Economic Development Strategic Plan. On December 4 and 5 Allegany County will hold two public visioning sessions in order to gather public input for the Economic Development Strategic Plan. It was noted that the SERF building is being put on the grid with the hope to turn it into an Innovation Center.

e. Student Affairs – Dr. Thomas Bowling reported that Cumberland Hall will be closing after the Fall 2018 semester for renovations. This closure will occur simultaneously with the re-opening of newly renovated Annapolis Hall. Students leaving Cumberland Hall will have the opportunity to leave their belongings in Cumberland Hall during the holidays and January break. As part of this transition plan, the Cumberland Hall residents will be able to return to campus as early as Thursday, January 24 in order to make the move to either Annapolis Hall or other available locations on campus. Moving assistance will be provided by the volunteer efforts of various student organizations. “PAWS Pantry” is up and running with 100 lbs. of food already distributed to 42 students. The NCBI Workshop was held with good attendance. A total of 70 applications were received for the “Leadership Sloop Institute” to be held March 2019. It was noted that FSU was featured in the “Washington Monthly” magazine for their student voting support. Mr. Jeff Graham will attend a future UAC meeting to report on alcohol use by students. It was noted that binge drinking is down 32% but marijuana use has risen.
f. University Advancement – Mr. John Short reported that the faculty/staff campaign is on-going and the Phonathon is winding down with 23 new donors. It was reported that Ms. Colleen Stump is retiring as of January 1, 2019. Restructure of this position was briefly discussed.

g. President’s Office – Dr. Nowaczyk attended a Board of Regents Retreat on November 29, 2018 with discussions held on enrollment, affordability, and retention. It was noted that more students are choosing to attend a community college and live at home. Teacher crisis shortage was discussed at the Retreat.

5. Old Business:

a. Ms. Crystal Redinger and Ms. Emma Gerhold from FSU Athletics Department presented an overview of the NCAA DII application process. The application will be submitted by February 1, 2019 in anticipation of being accepted by July of 2019 with a site visit by NCAA to be conduct Spring 2019. To assist with this transition FSU has secured Strategic Edge Athletic Consulting. A policy manual and strategic plan are being developed. Strategic Edge has confirmed that progress is on target. Athletic scholarships were also discussed. A decision should be made by mid-July 2019.

b. Old Police Building/Cultural Center – Discussion was held on turning the old police building into a Cultural Center. The (PACDEI) President’s Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion was discussed. This group is not a functioning group with not much information available. Dr. Nowaczyk met with Dr. Thomas Bowling and Ms. Robin Wynder regarding establishing the PACDEI. Membership should consist of faculty, staff and students, who meet regularly to set goals and launch initiatives to improve campus climate with respect to diversity. This group will fit into the Strategic Plan.

c. Other – Chief Cindy Smith gave an update on a possible threat reported to campus police by a student. The threat was investigated by an officer which determined no action needed. Chief Smith stressed that all possible threats are taken very seriously and are investigated.

6. New Business:

a. Preliminary Information on Faculty Morale Study. Dr. Ben Norris gave a brief summary of the Faculty Morale Study. Information will be shared with the campus next week.

7. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.