

# MINUTES

## December 4, 2019 University of Nebraska – Lincoln Academic Planning Committee

**Members Present:** Bloom, Clarke, Geisinger, Hachtmann, Hebets, Moberly, O'Connor, Smith, Tschetter, Zeleny

**Members Absent:** Bender, Boehm, Gay, Hibberd, Johnson, Purcell, Purdum, Ratcliff, Wilhelm

**Others Attending:** Dean Sherri Jones, Dean Katherine Ankersen, Brooke Hay

**Note:** These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Academic Planning Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

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### **1.0 Call**

Clarke called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

### **2.0 Approval of November 20, 2019 Minutes**

The minutes were approved after revisions were made.

### **3.0 Proposal to Establish the Quantitative Measurement and Modeling Graduate Certificate**

Clarke noted that the proposal is from the Educational Psychology department and seeks to establish a graduate certificate in quantitative measurement and modeling. She stated that the certificate would be in addition to the department's mixed methods research certificate that is currently offered. Geisinger pointed out that the certificate would apply mostly to students in the College of Education and Human Sciences with the primary audience being those that want to learn quantitative methods.

Clarke asked for volunteers to review the proposal. Hachtmann and Bloom volunteered with the goal to give a report on the proposal to the APC at the next meeting.

### **4.0 Project Initiation Requests: Barkley Center Renovation, Architecture Renovation**

Zeleny reported that he, along with Purdum and Ratcliff, met to discuss the project initiation requests. He stated that the Barkley Center renovation was initially reviewed by the APC on April 24, 2019, but some changes were suggested to improve the request. He reported that the suggested changes were addressed and added to the PIR. He noted that design work has not been completed yet, and stated that there is a \$10 million cap on the project. He reported that the timeline is for the contractor to be selected in March and the goal of completing the project is slated for 2022. He stated that the PIR subcommittee recommended approval of the PIR, and he moved that the project be approved. O'Connor seconded the motion.

Geisinger asked what will happen in the interim as the construction begins. Jones stated that the addition will be added first after which occupants will be moved around the building as needed

to accommodate the construction. She noted that some classes may need to be moved into other buildings. She stated that the architects have been consulted with the sequencing of the project.

Bloom asked if the total cost of the project is known. Jones stated that the architects showed what could be done with \$10 million, and the hope is that all of the construction can be done, but when the project goes out to bid it may not be possible for all of it to be completed. Bloom asked if the project is in line with the scope and programs of the College. Jones stated that the project will make needed improvements and will allow labs to be moved to the first floor which will be beneficial to clients.

The PIR for the Barkley Center was approved.

Zeleny stated that the Architecture renovation seeks to increase studio lab space, to renovate the Architecture library, and to address some important life safety issues such as adding an egress stair and correcting a code conflict with the existing elevator/stair arrangement in the Architecture Library. He reported that the PIR subcommittee felt that the request was well written and required no follow-up. O'Connor moved to approve the PIR and the motion was seconded by Geisinger.

Bloom asked if there was available funding for the project. Zeleny stated that funding was available. He pointed out the request will not need Board of Regents approval because the project is below \$5 million. The APC approved the project request.

### **5.0 Report from the Executive Vice Chancellor**

Moberly reported that the Nebraska College Preparatory Academy (NCPA) prepares first generation and low-income students to achieve personal and academic success. He stated that the program has been very successful and Assistant VC Williams has been instrumental in running the program since it was moved under ASEM. He noted that with Williams leaving the University, the program will be moving to Student Affairs, and Assistant Vice Chancellor Tyre McDowell will be overseeing the program. He reported that there will be a search for an Associate VC of ASEM which he hopes will get underway in early spring.

Moberly stated that December 3<sup>rd</sup> was the last day to submit applications for the VSIP. He reported that the contracts would be issued next week. Bloom asked if there are indications of how many faculty members applied for the VSIP. Moberly stated that the numbers are more than expected.

Moberly noted that of the four candidates for the Dean of the College of Journalism and Mass Communications, some were on campus last week and others will be on campus over the next two weeks.

### **6.0 Other Business**

Clarke stated that the APC often gets the PIRs very late in the process, but ideally it would be better to get the PIRs earlier. Zeleny pointed out that in the beginning of the process the PIRs often do not have enough details which the PIR subcommittee often needs in order to make a decision on a project. He noted that a PIR would be pulled from the Board of Regents agenda if

the APC did not approve the project. Moberly asked what kind of information would be missing if the APC was to review PIRs earlier. Zeleny stated that details pertaining to cost for the project and square footing would probably not be available. He noted that the scope of the project is not often changed unless the cost of the project would rise. Moberly pointed out that when the APC receives the PIR so late it appears that the Committee is merely rubber-stamping approval of the project. He suggested that the APC may not need to be as concerned with the funding so it could receive the request earlier in the process. Geisinger noted that the APC would need to know if there are personnel implications, particularly if college funds would be used for the project that could impact faculty positions. Zeleny suggested that the timing be the priority for PIRs to come before the APC, rather than having detailed information.

Zeleny reported that the N2025 targets are being developed and the Chancellor would like the APC to have the opportunity to review the strategies before the plan is finalized. The Committee agreed to meet on January 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the strategies. Bloom asked if the N2025 Committee would see the final plan before it is made public. Zeleny stated that the Committee would see the final plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 3:00 in the City Campus Union, Regency B and C. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.