**Integrated Planning Council**

**November 15, 2019**

***Meeting Notes***

**Present:** Y. Kirby, Z. Toro, K, Peckham, G. Claffey, C. Galligan, M. Jasek, D. Dauwalder, M. Jackson, R. Barcelo, J. Melnyk, C. Casamento, S. Hazan, S. Cintorino, B. Merenstein

**Campus Culture – Ombudsperson**

The Council began the meeting with a discussion regarding the creation of a University Ombudsperson position, which was a suggestion that initially came from the Sibson Consultants. The position would report to the President, and it would be a full-time, non-union role. The goal behind this position would be to have an unbiased individual to mediate conflict and help the University to avoid the escalation of negative situations. Much like a mediator, the person in this role would work to make all individuals feel comfortable with the chosen path of conflict resolution, so that no one felt they were on the losing side.

Z. Toro reported that the AAUP strongly supports the creation of this position, and J. Melnyk added that the UPBC is in support of this role; however, a few questions were raised by UPBC members. For example, the UPBC questioned how issues involving the President would be handled since the position would be a direct report to the President. Z. Toro replied that issues involving the President would be managed at the System level. C. Casamento added that this would be a $200k investment for the University including fringe benefits. R. Barcelo commented that roles of the Ombudsperson and the Office of Equity and Inclusion must be made clear.

After a brief discussion, the Council members unanimously voted in favor of the creation of the Ombudsperson position.

**Update on Capital Projects (S. Cintorino)**

S. Cintorino provided an update on the most recent capital projects. The following is a summary of his presentation.

* *Huang Family Recreation Center.* The University is working with the contractor to have the Center up and running by January 2020, and equipment will be delivered on January 2nd. There will be a soft opening and a ribbon cutting ceremony held before the building officially opens its doors to students.
	+ Z. Toro noted that there were questions about the funding of this Center at the last President’s Advisory Board Meeting. She then explained that the building will be used for mainly academic purposes, with wellness and athletics being secondary. S. Hazan commented that all groups have worked well together to develop a way to effectively utilize the building.
* *Barnard Hall Addition and Renovations*. Barnard Hall construction is currently in progress, which has a very tight budget of $22 million. The addition includes 10,000 square feet of space, which consists of about ten offices and a large gathering area. New windows, air conditioning and mechanicals are also being installed. The project is scheduled for completion by January 2021.
* *New Engineering Building*. The recently redesigned engineering building will be a $62 million project. Construction has just begun, and the foundation will be poured soon. The design will be excellent for recruiting purposes, as there are large windows that look into the labs and lecture halls. Most recently, an additional $8 million was requested for funding of construction costs, and the building is expected to open in Fall 2021.
* *Library Annex*. The total cost of the library addition will be approximately $14.6 million, and it will consist of a 15,000 gross square foot addition that includes mechanical upgrades to the existing library stacks. S. Cintorino is looking to have the architect in place within the next four weeks in order to begin programming.
* *CHEFA Program*. S. Cintorino provided a brief explanation of the CHEFA program. CHEFA buildings (i.e.: Student Center, residence halls, dining facilities and Memorial Hall) are funded through bond sales. Essentially this funding is borrowed and paid back through student fees of about $900 per student per year. Included in this funding is the Willard DiLoreto Parking Garage ($25m) and the Memorial Hall MEP Renovation ($7.6m).
	+ The Willard DiLoreto parking garage will be a 600-space parking structure. The job is currently going through a bid process, and the project should begin in Spring 2020. The garage will also include a pedestrian bridge that will allow crossing over the street.
	+ The Memorial Hall renovation will begin in January 2022, and this will include air conditioning and plumbing updates.

S. Cintorino noted that academic buildings have been funded through a Master Plan CCSU 2020 program, however it is unlikely that the state will have such a program for 2030. Therefore, academic buildings will need to be funded through other means, such as donations.

* Future Projects include:
	+ Student Center Renovation and Addition (~2022)
	+ STEM/Life Sciences Complex – approximately 175,000 square feet and about $175 million
	+ Copernicus Garage replacement
	+ Performing and Visual Arts Construction/Renovation
	+ Maria Sanford Renovations
	+ Vance Hall Renovation
	+ Barrows Hall Renovation

The following items were tabled for future discussion:

* Submissions Under Review
* Strategic Planning – Progress Report and Timeline Update
* Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Process – Progress Report

***Next Meeting: December 10th***