

University Planning and Budget Committee  
Meeting of April 4, 2012  
Blue and White Room, Student Center

In attendance: Kris Larsen, Haoyu Wang, Thom Delventhal, Larry Grasso, Margeret Leake, Otis Mamed, Yvonne Kirby, Charlene Casamento, Sue Pease, Carl Lovitt, Celeste Roche, Shuju Wu, Richard Bachoo, Laura Tordenti, Lisa Bigelow

Meeting called to order at 2:01:

1. Minutes reviewed

Motion to approve (Meg), 2<sup>nd</sup> (Hao)

Corrections Made

Minutes approved

2. Announcements:

Richard: My office is working with the senate on a plan. The overall plan has been accepted by the Master Planning Committee, but there are still a couple key issues to work out. When we do present it will be to the whole senate, not just the UPBC.

Kris: How many years does it cover?

Richard: 10

The new academic building is rolling along. Ground breaking on the new Public Safety building will be any day. The top floor of Barnard will be completed this summer. There will be a beam-signing ceremony on the new academic building in September. There is work that is very important to Residence Life (Air conditioning for Seth North, for example) that will be completed by the end of summer. Specs for the new residence hall (behind the Student Center Parking Garage) will be ready by that time as well. We're making space in the library more efficient (more bathrooms, so no one has to go all the way downstairs to use the bathroom anymore!). The wind tunnel for the new engineering lab will be delivered next week. Davidson is being brought up to code at a cost of 1.2 million and the Bursar and Financial Aid offices will be moved back there.

Larry: Can you tell us anything about what's happening with the bubble?

Richard: One wall is sagging. If that wall came down it would take the entire concrete wall down with it. If we can fix it, we will. But I tend to believe there are structural discoveries yet to be made.

The Master Plan does have a new building there, but the cost is 3.5-6 million, that's not even considering fees, sprinklers, etc. So for now, we better fix the Bubble.

3. New Business:

Admin affairs thoughts on scheduling changes:

Larry: OK, the reason you're here: the decline of weekend population. We've discussed certificate programs on weekends, or shut down of certain buildings, etc. Do you see any cost-saving from these ideas? Are any feasible?

Richard: Not of it is new. We've been back and forth with the question of putting everything into one building for past summer school considerations. The building would have to be Copernicus, because of the labs. I asked to look at it 3 years ago and there's still data coming in. It's looking like 2 buildings would be a good idea. There'll be more info soon. I think the simple answer is, yes, it would be beneficial but it's moving slowly. There seems to be bigger savings now in retro-commissioning all buildings. Efficiency is the bigger savings right now.

Sue: Is there a political concern shutting down one day a week, then asking for a new residence building?

Richard: It's definitely a possibility. It could backfire. But if we can help them understand that it's not black and white...that it's not just lights on, lights off...in order to have a building ready when it's needed it's much more complex.

Laura: I think it would be enormously negative; our BOR is all--but 4 or 5—business people. The students didn't ask to have Friday classes eliminated.

Larry: They did.

Sue: The consistency isn't there.

Carl: We're mis-stating the problem. We had Friday classes. We just have to get the level back up.

Larry: But given a choice they are not taking Friday classes.

Carl; Sometimes you have to do what's right, not what feels good.

Larry: It's not that simple. I'm not just saying let's scrap Fridays.

Kris: It's not about faculty only wanting to work 4 days, it's teach 4 days. That 5<sup>th</sup> day is still loaded.

Richard: Yeah, but the board is not going to buy it.

Sue: The only way is to get university business on Friday.

Carl: We can't all have the same day off.

Meg: Can we make it work for both 4 day a week and 5 day a week?

Larry: Well if we get a critical mass of people, a lot of these issues will clear up.

Otis: I Hope we're not looking at this as if any single reason could explain it. Students have to work more 'because school is too expensive. Why? Because the state is withdrawing funds?

Shuju: We have to make sure they don't have those other options to Friday classes. But will students accept that or transfer? How can we contribute to a more vibrant campus life? In China Friday is a day to relax and share with the community in a way that is not pressured. The dining hall serves the best food on Friday. There is beer.

Larry: Every FYE class should have a Friday component. They get that extra credit. Certificate programs, conventions. I know, Richard, you say these are not money-makers but certificate programs will bring a different energy that is valuable.

I think making the best meal on Friday is a good idea.

Eric: It's not just programming on the weekend, but all the little 1% factors, like making a better connection with local venues; incorporate community into campus life. Certificate programs are a good idea, but just having faculty lead

workshops in unusual and interesting things. One professor joked about brewing beer, but why not?

Items 4 and 5 moved to further meetings.

6. Division updates:

Academic Affairs (Carl): It's a busy time! Last week I was President, Provost and Dean.

Larry: The BOR came up with the final wording on "Common Core" bill. Any update?

Carl: "If you get an Associate's Degree..." This is a solution to a problem that doesn't exist. Very few of the students that come to us from community college have complete there Associate's Degree.

Student Affairs (Laura): You are aware of the violence in Beecher...its on-going. We're doing all this Safe-zone Training, but now other things are popping up, which are generating attention from many sources. Be ready for more attention and heat.

Institutional Research (Yvonne): I attended a meeting of institutional researchers last week. ConnSCU appears to be preparing to make some streamlining changes.

Adjournment: 3:32