University Planning and Budget Committee

Minutes of the Meeting June 16th, 2020 via Webex

Members Present: J. Melnyk, S. Cohen, J. Hodgson, P. LeMaire, K. Poirier, M. Fallon, E. Pana, S. Hazan, J. Gamache, Y.Kirby, L. Washko, J. Snyder, M. McCarthy, N. Al-Masoud

Chair J. Melnyk called the meeting to order at 1:47 pm.

Minutes: A motion by L. Washko and seconded by J. Hodgson to approve the minutes from May 5th was approved. A motion by K. Poirier and seconded by M. McCarthy to approve the minutes from May 19th was approved. A motion by J. Hodgson and seconded by L. Washko to approve the minutes for June 2nd was approved.

Announcements: The chair J. Melnyk reported that C. Casamento was scheduling meetings for the IPC during the summer to review the items our committee recommended.

S. Petras had notified the chair prior to the meeting that the Facilities Planning Committee had not met. Based on a question by S. Cohen, Chair Melnyk has sent an email to S. Cintorino asking for an update on existing or planned projects. L. Washko stated that she will be serving on the Library Annex Committee and that weekly meetings are being instituted. M. Fallon stated that she had been informed that there have been no disruptions to the work on the new Engineering building.

Division updates

From the Provost Office:

M. Fallon reported that ~30 classrooms that can hold 12-15 students under the spacing guidelines and a few that can hold a larger number of students have been identified to be updated to support HyFlex teaching. J. Melnyk will be one of the speakers at a workshop on Jun 23rd to introduce faculty to HyFlex. Some lab adaptations are also being considered. There will be no full on-site classes. M. Fallon was estimating about 1/3 of the expected classes will use HyFlex. Others will need to be on-line. She did not have an answer to the question as to what parameters were being used to choose which classes would be scheduled for HyFlex. She also did not have an expected date when faculty would be notified which classes were to be scheduled for HyFlex, but she hoped it would be soon after the July 1st date when the reports were due to be completed.

From OIRA:

Y. Kirby stated that she is working on the first interim report due to NECHE by July 1st. There have been two reports submitted to NECHE responding to questions about how the university is responding to the COVID-19 situation: one on what has been done so far, and one on how finances are being affected. She stated that she had recently attended a meeting where one of the questions discussed was how to assess faculty and student acceptance of the measures being implemented. Any thoughts from the committee members are welcome.

The next meeting is expected to be July 14th, which is after July 1st, so hopefully more information about the Fall semester will be available. Chair J. Melnyk will send out the WebEx invitation.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 pm.

Submitted, J Hodgson, Recording Secretary