

## MINUTES

**Faculty Senate-University Council Resources, Space and Budget Committee  
Friday, December 6, 2019, 10 a.m.  
Altgeld Hall 125  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, Illinois**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Arado, Bolden, Dawe (for Woodruff), Doederlein, Duffin, Johnson, Martin, Millhorn, Montana, Riley, Royce, Schatteman, Shi, Siegesmund (for Beyer), Slotsve, Thu (for Subramony)

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Beyer, Creed, Subramony, Woodruff

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Campbell, Heckmann, Ingram, Kassel, Kersh, Nicholson, Stang, Wesener Michael

**OTHERS ABSENT:** McGill

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

FS-UC Resources, Space and Budget (RSB) Committee chair, **T. Arado**, called the meeting to order.

### **II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was verified.

### **III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

No objections were noted, and the agenda was adopted by voice vote.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

No objections were noted, and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**T. Arado** reported that the first reading for the proposal to add two student representatives to the RSB Committee was held at the December 4 University Council meeting.

## VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee update – Jeffrey Royce
- A proposal to remove the blue light call boxes on campus is under consideration. Data shows the last time they were used for an emergency was in 2016. Faculty, staff, students and community members are encouraged to download the NIU Safe App.
  - An alleged threat of violence against the NIU campus on November 18 was grossly exaggerated on social media. NIU Public Safety encourages anyone who has safety-related questions or concerns to contact Public Safety as opposed to relying on social media for dependable information.
  - Increasing police presence on campus has been a topic of discussion.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Update on the Campus Life Building  
Beth Ingram, Executive Vice President and Provost  
Kelly Wesener-Michael, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs  
Renique Kersh, Associate Vice Provost for Student Engagement and Success  
Michael Stang, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs

The draft Student Services Building Proposal was presented. The goal is to provide a student-centered, community focused approach for the potential use of space within the Campus Life Building (CLB) and to provide for a synergistic relationship among the units which will occupy the building.

Guiding principles were developed to assist in identifying units to move into the CLB, and further conversations and focus groups provided valuable input. A few concerns are still being examined, including privacy concerns for those visiting some of the offices proposed to be housed in a building with anticipated high levels of traffic. The main goal is that each student be provided dignity when accessing the services in the CLB. Concerns have also been identified regarding the reconfiguration of space within Career Services.

The Northern Star will vacate the CLB, possibly to the Fieldhouse, but it was noted that such a move will require thoughtful planning relative to the reconfiguration of the space.

**G. Slotsve** reported that his student is working on an app design for accessing services as opposed to walking into the building. He will connect that student with **K. Wesener Michael**. **K. Wesener Michael** noted that her team also has reviewed several apps for this purpose.

**C. Doederlein** supports slowing down some of the timeline on this project to allow for testing out some of the space usage, as opposed to moving everyone into the building at once and filling up the space, which gives no opportunity to test and re-think usage and configurations.

**J. Royce** noted that the blue sticker parking lot surrounding the CLB already has a high volume of parking tickets. What can be done to help ensure that those visiting the CLB for services don't unwittingly park illegally.

**T. Arado** suggested that members have until the end of the fall semester to provide further feedback on this topic. Such feedback should be directed to Pat Erickson at [pje@niu.edu](mailto:pje@niu.edu).

- B. Student fee development process  
Beth Ingram, Executive Vice President and Provost

**B. Ingram** presented a proposal to amend the University Fee Review Committee (UFRC) process.

Currently the timeline is too compressed resulting in the fee managers working in a short turn-around, sometimes with outdated information. The proposed timeline calls for preliminary discussions to take place during the prior spring semester, which allows for more in depth vetting, input, and discussion.

The second proposed change is to provide an initial budget with respect to the fees and updating that budget with current information when available. This will provide fee managers updated data, including more current credit hour information, with which to work in preparing fee proposals.

It was also noted that UFRC members would no longer be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement, with the goal being to make the process be more transparent going forward.

It was suggested that UFRC final reports come back to the RSB Committee.

It was also suggested that, if the UFRC's fee recommendations are modified in the final recommendation to the BOT, that such modifications, and the related rationale, be reported back to the UFRC members prior to the recommendation presentation to the BOT.

The process document should be clear regarding the entities involved and the timeline. **B. Ingram** noted that budget documents from the UFRC could be provided to the RSB. It was noted that RSB has a representative seat on the UFRC, but is not, as a body, involved in the process. This representative can report back to the RSB now that the non-disclosure requirement has been removed.

The descriptive information regarding the student members on the UFRC might need to be updated. Perhaps there are no “Student representatives (at large, appointed by the President)” as is noted in the document; and it seems there is an RHA student representative on the committee, though that role is not included in the list.

**B. Ingram** welcomes further comments from RSB Committee members.

#### Other Announcements

1. **B. Ingram** suggested that the RSB Committee members could assist in planning for the efficient and effective stewardship of NIU resources, in particular with regard to issues that have come to light as a result of the provost and chief financial officer’s recent meetings with various departments across campus. They would like to bring some of these ideas to the RSB for vetting or further action.
2. **K. Thu** reported that he is working with **J. Millhorn** to make the Working Papers accessible electronically.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**G. Slotsve** moved to adjourn, seconded by **C. Doederlein**. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

**Future RSB meeting dates:** Jan 10, Feb 7, Mar 6, Apr 3.

President Lisa Freeman is tentatively scheduled to meet with the RSB on Jan 10 and Mar 6.