

**UFFAB Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday January 30, 2013  
303 GSB Large Conference Room

**Members Present:** Jenna Muniz, ULC, Chair  
Lexi Evans, Warner College of Natural Resources, Vice Chair  
Michelle Staros, CVMBS  
Jeff Cook, Graduate School  
Amber Weimer, College of Natural Sciences  
Matt Lancto, College of Liberal Arts  
Lance Oles, College of Agricultural Sciences  
Matt Fergen, College of Business  
Alex Brown, College of Engineering

**Members Not Present:** Riley Smith, College of Health and Human Sciences

**Members at Large Present:** Sam Guinn, ASCSU Representative

**Associate Members Present:** Ashley Cypress, College of Health and Human Sciences  
Annalis Norman, CVMBS

**Associate Members Not Present:**

**Ex – Officio Members Present:** Steve Hultin, Faculty Advisor  
Becca Wren, Staff Support  
Lindsay Brown, Staff Support  
Cassidy Collins, Staff Support  
Andrew Olson, SFRB Liaison  
Kristi Buffington, Manager for Space and Information Management, Facilities Management  
Tamla Blunt, Ex-Officio Member

**Ex – Officio Members Not Present:** Patrick Burns, Ex – Officio Member

**Visitors:** Dr. Tony Frank – President  
Dr. Rick Miranda - Provost  
Amy Parsons – Vice President of University Operations

- I. Call to Order at 5:01 PM**
  - a. Jenna called the meeting to order.

## **II. Approval of Minutes from December 5, 2013**

- a. Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes from December 5, 2013.
- b. Lexi seconded.
- c. Motion approved.

## **III. Introduction of Dr. Tony Frank and Vice President Amy Parsons – Jenna**

- a. Everyone in the room introduced themselves.
- b. Jenna began explaining to the visitors that we have begun to consider a fee increase to fund the new Biology Building and the auditorium in the Warner College. She mentioned that our visitors are here to give us their opinion and show us their master plan vision of what to do with these funds.

## **IV. Discussion of fee adjustments - Dr. Frank**

- a. Dr. Tony Frank began discussion by asking Tamla if she was here when the first fee increase happened.
- b. Tamla answered yes.
- c. Dr. Frank followed by explaining the consistent growth in the student body coupled with new construction at CSU.
  - i. There have been two exceptions to this steady growth. The period from 1950-1960's that grew campus from GI bill and research. There was a period in 1980-1990 where the campus did not grow as much. In the last decade, there has been tremendous progress in the quality of the new buildings on campus.
  - ii. Our student facility fee has been the backbone of the wonderful quality of the buildings, and has inspired donors to contribute funds. Knowing that students are chipping in on the project motivates donors into funding new projects.
  - iii. Dr. Frank argues that there will always be a need for construction and renovations on the CSU campus as there will always be a new top priority project.
  - iv. He added that UFFAB's funding of a new Biology Building and the addition on to Warner would address the Administration's two main construction priorities.
  - v. This is why as we have been discussing these projects over the past couple years, we have been wondering if we can make a legitimate argument to the UFFAB that raising the fee to build the biology building is a good idea.
  - vi. Warner asked if the partnership could come to a plan to move that building forward.
  - vii. Dr. Frank asked the Board to understand that funded projects must meet two standards:
    1. Higher administration must be comfortable that the project will directly benefit the University in long run.
    2. The price of the project must be financially viable.
  - x. Dr. Frank is bringing the fee increase to the Board not to say "Please increase the fee." He is saying that these projects are worthwhile to consider seriously.
  - xi. He and his administration take it very seriously that the UFFAB dig into the issues and vote on behalf of your colleagues and colleges.
  - xii. Dr. Frank stressed that he is not trying to sell the fee increase, or pressure the Board into a decision. He just wants to be sure the Board sees the importance of these projects.
  - xiii. Governor Hickenlooper asked for university residents to keep tuition rates at or below 6%. Other universities are misinterpreting the Governor's wishes by increasing students fees to compensate for lower tuition rates.
  - xiv. The increase of the facility fee will not come into effect until next year. Dr. Frank explained that the timing of these fees is important to remember. The LSC fee will come into effect this year and the administration is trying to avoid overburdening students.
  - xv. Dr. Frank also reminded the Board that they can choose what percentage of the cost of Biology building and the WCNR addition the facility fund should be allocated to.

1. Dr. Frank asked what the current estimated price of the Biology Building is.
  2. Steve answered between \$70 - \$80 million
- xvi. In 2010, UFFAB predecessors only wanted to fund a percentage of the Scott Bioengineering Building, and leave it up to higher administration to fund the rest.
1. The university will be the lead donors, but UFFAB should be the lead into finding these funds.
- xvii. Steve asked Dr. Frank to explain the junction of the new Biology Building with the new Chemistry Building.
- xviii. Dr. Frank explained that the state has two lists - a capital construction list and a cash project list. Any project the state chooses not to fund is put on their cash project list. The Biology Building is currently on the cash funded list, and Chemistry is currently #3 on the capital construction list. There is a very high likelihood that the Chemistry Building will be funded by the state. By constructing both the Biology Building and the Chemistry Building at the same time, the overall cost of both projects would be less and that area of campus would be in disarray for a shorter timeframe. All factors considered, Dr. Frank again stressed the importance of the Board's consideration of both the Biology project and the WCNR project.
- xix. Dr. Frank then called for questions from the Board.

## **V. Questions and Answers - Dr. Tony Frank and the Board**

- a. Jenna asked if the Board can approve the fee increase, but push the start date of the fee increase back several years.
- ix. Dr. Frank answered that any timing of the fee increase could be recommended by the Board, but more than a year out will decay the logic behind it. In theory, the Board could pass fees that will go into effect a decade from now but how effective will that really be if projects for funding are needed sooner? Dr. Frank also noted that the Board could recommend virtually any figure for the fee increase. In theory, the Board is the only entity that can determine the amount of the fee increase. He also mentioned that he did not originally recommend the Suzanne and Walter Scott Bioengineering Building, but UFFAB did, so he considered it and eventually saw its value.
- b. Amber asked if UFFAB funding at least part of Biology would give the Chemistry building leverage to be funded by the state and move up in the state's capital construction list.
- ix. Dr. Frank answered that Chemistry will probably come through on its own but of course, UFFAB's funding of the Biology Building could not hurt Chemistry's chances in moving up.
- c. Jeff asked what number is the right one in consideration this fee.
- ix. Dr. Frank answered that he hopes UFFAB will consider funding \$60,000,000 of the Biology Building.
  - x. While the Biology Building will really only support one department as compared to a whole college, Dr. Miranda added that somewhere around \$5-10 million can be raised by donors. The engineering building was 1/3 funded with philanthropy funds from the College of Engineering. However, to keep things in perspective, Dr. Miranda does not want to rely on large amounts of donations coming in.
- d. Jenna added that she was bragging about Dr. Frank being at our meeting and one of her friends asked why the Biology Building was considered the main campus priority. Why not Eddy or other high traffic buildings?
- ix. Dr. Frank added that the higher administration is always looking for the next weakest link that will have the biggest return.
    1. It is clear that Biology is the next largest priority on the list as it has not had any upgrades since original construction. Vet Med students will benefit from the new Biology building, Agricultural Sciences has a new building, the College of Business has Rockwell Hall, HES has Moby additions, Liberal Arts has the UCA and the series of remodels in Eddy, College of Engineering just got the Scott

Bioengineering Building. Across college, we have the Library, LSC, and the residence hall renovations.

2. Where are our biggest majors? Psychology, HES, Biology, and Business. Bio is the 3rd largest majors on campus, and each of the top 4 majors have been addressed except for Biology.
- e. Jeff asked if Dr. Frank has a plan on how he is going to promote this fee to the student body.
  - ix. Dr. Frank added that there are a large number of things we could do, including hosting an Open Forum. The Open Forum will show that UFFAB and high administration take representative government very seriously. Also, UUFAB can advertise in Today@Colostate, The Collegian, and other advertisements.
  - x. Dr. Miranda added that the higher administration is in contact with our colleagues, SFRB, ASCSU, and the College Councils to ensure that the fee increases are paced accordingly to not overburden the students all at once.
- f. Lexi asked if Dr. Frank sees a lot of resistance coming from the student body about the fee increase.
  - ix. Dr. Frank answered that there is a small minority of students that participate in the government process. Out of those who do choose to participate, it is historically divided into 2/3rds who get engaged, and support. Then, there's 1/3rd who will always argue that costs are too high. Dr. Frank projects that CSU will have its 7th consecutive year of the same enrollment numbers.
  - x. There will also be an increase in state financial aid to increase the consistency of enrollment numbers.
  - xi. For students who choose to pay attention and truly understand the process we are taking, Dr. Frank does not imagine that there will be much hesitation in the fee increase.
- g. Jenna asked about what Dr. Frank, Dr. Miranda, and VP Amy Parsons thought about the projects we already have funding for.
  - ix. Amy Parsons discussed that she prefers to see UFFAB funds being dedicated to classroom renovations, even though it isn't as glamorous as a brand new building. Amy encouraged the Board to invest in the buildings that already exist, to make them even better than before. She liked the general assignment classroom renovation project as well as the TRIO project.
  - x. Dr. Miranda added that he supports putting funds into the Visual Arts building. Even though UFFAB once funded Visual Arts renovations, there is more work to be done in that building. The art department is packed with students, and many classrooms need more attention.
- h. Jenna asked if the Board should consider flipped classrooms or instead focus on general assignment classrooms.
  - ix. Dr. Miranda answered that higher administration wants to pilot flipped classrooms on campus and it would be good for the Board to consider these projects.
  - x. Steve added that Facilities has a list of classrooms sorted by priority and ability to be flipped.
  - xi. There were no other questions for Dr. Frank from the Board.

## **VI. Discussion of University Naming Plaques – Steve**

- a. Dean McLean, of the College of Engineering, wanted to recognize the UFFAB board and their efforts in raising the fee in 2010, which helped fund the Scott Bioengineering building. He wanted to name a single room after the students. The University Naming Committee decided to honor the students by installing commemorative plaques in 7 different buildings around campus, giving credit to the Board that funded the project.
- b. Three mock ups of these plaques were shown to the Board.
- c. All plaques will be mounted by March, and there will be a ceremony.
- d. Dr. Frank added that potentially adding the students graduation date would make the plaques more personal.
- e. Jeff added that although the Board actually votes on the project, he does not know if he supports that type of recognition for only these individuals listed because the whole student body pays the fees to fund the projects.

- f. Lexi added that she appreciates the opportunity and supports that type of recognition for 3-4 years of dedication. Lexi suggested speaking with Vincent or some others Board members and getting their opinions, since their names will be listed.
  - g. Steve mentioned that the purpose of the plaque project is to thank the students, and the names are important and often a common practice around campus to honor those who make the decision.
  - h. Dr. Frank supported Steve's comment.
  - i. Steve added that this is the UNC's opportunity to recognize the Board.
  - j. Dr. Miranda addressed Jeff's point that these students are representing the entire student body by thanking those representatives. "Special thanks to ALL the students and THEIR REPRESENTATIVES".
  - k. Amber added that she appreciates the names of those that were on the board to show that we are students, not faculty, sending a positive message to the student body.
- VII. Jenna thanked our visitors for attending once again.

**VIII. Next meeting February 6th, 2014.**

**IX. Adjourn at 5:58 PM**