

UFFAB Meeting Minutes
Thursday April 10th, 2014
303 GSB Large Conference Room

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

Members Not

Present:

Members at Large Present: Sam Guinn, ASCSU Representative

Members at Large Not Present:

Associate Members Present: Robert Edwards, College of Natural 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
Patrick Burns, Ex – Officio Member
Tamla Blunt, Ex-Officio Member

Visitors: Haven Levitt

I. Call to Order at 5:00 PM

- a. Jenna called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
- b. Lexi made a motion to approve the minutes from April 3rd, 2014.
- c. Lance seconded.
- d. All approved, none opposed, none abstained. Minutes approved.

- e. Haven Levitt introduced herself as a member of the Graduate School College Council. She feels that this fee increase unfairly penalizes the graduate students that are required to take 21 credits per semester. She believes the increase is too high. She added that from her perspective, it would be more appropriate to add the increase to tuition. She asked the Board to consider an alternative solution to the fee increase.

II. Discussion of final vote on fee increase

- a. Jenna introduced the vote process handout according to Robert's Rules of Order.
- b. Steve outlined the order of the voting process and he suggested the Board start by discussing the highest level of funding, working downward. This will ensure that all levels of funding were appropriately considered.
- c. Steve also explained the rounded fee table, which has figures rounded down to the nearest nickel.

III. Final vote on fee increase

- a. Jenna called for a motion for an unspecified funding level of the Warner College increase.
 - i. Jeff made a motion.
 - ii. Lexi seconded
 - iii. Discussion open.
- b. Discussion for the Warner auditorium \$0.24 increase
 - i. Jeff made a motion to approve the \$0.24 increase for the Warner addition.
 - ii. Sam seconded.
 - iii. 11 approved, none abstained, none opposed. Approved unanimously by the Board.
 - iv. Warner College Auditorium passes with a fee increase of \$0.24 per credit hour.
- c. Amber made a motion on the discussion of a 100% funding of the Biology Building
 - i. Sam seconded
 - ii. Discussion open.
- d. Amber said that she doesn't feel that 100% support is necessary from UFFAB, but she wanted the Board to consider all levels.
- e. Jeff asked for clarification about phasing in the fee slowly, to effect students who would be using the building.
 - i. Jenna answered that it would be problematic and confusing because it is often difficult to determine at what level students are. Some students enroll in their first year as a junior, according to their credits.
 - ii. At the last meeting, President Frank said this would not be an option worth exploring.
- f. Jenna asked in general if anyone supported the 90% funding.
 - i. Amber answered yes.
- g. Ashley asked if before giving the project 90% support, the College of Natural Sciences could be required to secure their portion of fundraising, to ensure that the entire project is funded.
 - i. Pat answered that this requirement could be added as a condition of funding, according to the Board's will.
 - ii. Steve added that there are many projects that have been required to do this, such as the HES addition.
 - iii. Ashley added that she would support this to gain student support because it provides an explanation for why we funded the Biology Building.
- h. Jeff added that the only fair fee figure to consider is the 90% level. The rest of the other options might stop the project from happening. Jeff then said that despite his opinion, he can't support the increase more than at the 70% level because the Graduate College does not support the increase.
- i. Lexi shared that she believes the new building will be very beneficial to the students who will use it. She suggested focusing more on 80% level. It is still a viable option if they are able to get corporate funding, donor funding, and differential tuition.
- j. Alex asked what the minimum amount the College said was an acceptable funding amount.

- i. Matt Lancto answered 90%.
- k. Alex asked if the college itself will be fundraising or if fundraising was a university-wide project.
 - i. Steve answered that fundraising would be an effort of the College of Natural Sciences.
- l. Alex said that he believes the college should be capable of fundraising more than \$5-8 million.
- m. Jenna agreed that the college should be pushed into fundraising more than what they originally claimed they could.
- n. Jeff added that he may be able to convince the Graduate College of the 80% funding level, which is less severe than 90%.
- o. Lexi proposed to discuss the amendment of an 80% level funding
 - i. Jeff Cook and Alex Brown seconded.
 - ii. Discussion open.
- p. Amber added that she agrees that it would be better for the College to have the capacity to fundraise more but it shouldn't be up to the Board to verify their efforts. No Board member is a fundraising effort and no Board member truly knows how easy or difficult it will be for CNS. They are coming to the Board with the knowledge of their fundraising capabilities.
- q. Lexi said she is unwilling to support a 90% level of support for the Biology building. She thinks 80% or lower is fair.
 - i. Jenna added that 80% puts a 15 credit student at less than a \$100 dollar increase per semester.
- r. Amber said that the College of Natural Sciences is very eager to have a new building to support their growing program. She would be dissatisfied to see the Natural Sciences College go without this project, while looking for more sources of funding.
- s. Sam mentioned that during her campaign, she spoke to many students that made it clear to her that students do not want the fees to constantly be increasing.
- t. Jeff said that the University needs to expand the campus, but that cannot be done without putting it on the backs of the students.
- u. Annalis added that she doesn't know if this is the right building for this amount of an increase. She would be more in favor for a building that focuses on general student class space, rather than lab space.
- v. Jeff said that a large part of this project is the improved faculty space but then stated that he does not think this task should be a responsibility of the students. This is a responsibility of the University and he believes it is unfair to ask the students to do so.
 - i. Robert disagreed, believing that the University must appeal to new faculty with impressive teaching facilities, for which the students should share responsibility.
- w. Amber countered the earlier point of classroom space, saying that lab space is teaching space for Biology students. The hands-on experience in the Biology field is very educational and is critical to the Biology students.
 - i. Annalis agreed, understanding that point but also noting that this will only benefit Biology students.
- x. Jeff reminded the Board to consider the other fee increase and how that plays into the UFFAB increase.
- y. Matt Lancto added that if we fund this, it may take a couple years to fund general renovations.
 - i. Jenna mentioned that UFFAB is not interested in funding another building, and will still have the cash-funded portion of the facility fee, to use for renovations and other projects.
 - ii. Michelle referenced the long general assignment classroom remodel list from Mike Davis, noting there are still many rooms to improve.
 - iii. Steve clarified that UFFAB will still have those funds for cash funded projects.
- z. Michelle mentioned that the CVMBS undergrads understand that the state isn't contributing to the funding of new construction, but there is concern about the Stadium sucking all the private donors right now. Michelle suggested that the College of Natural Sciences contribute more funding.

- aa. Alex said that he would like to see the Board support the 5th floor shell option of the project. He referenced the Scott Bioengineering Building, with the 2nd floor shelled.
 - i. The shelled 5th floor option would need a \$5.51 increase.
- bb. Amber asked for clarification that at this level, they would have to fund the 16 million and the completion of the fifth floor.
 - i. Jenna answered yes.
- cc. Jenna pointed out that 75% of the students on campus will take at least one biology course at CSU but the lower level courses will stay in Yates. Therefore, that 75% will not all be served by the new Biology Building.
 - i. Amber clarified that much of the student space would be moved into the new building.
- dd. Jeff said that if UFFAB took a blanket poll of the students at CSU, asking them if they would be in support of a facility fee increase of \$6/credit hour, they would say no.
 - i. Amber countered that students do not understand the complexity of this decision.
 - ii. Ashley is scared of the backlash from students being negative.
- ee. Jenna said the Board could either take a motion to vote on the 80% funding, or a member could make a motion to discuss the shelling of the fifth floor.
 - i. Amber said that she believes the building will not be completed with a UFFAB contribution of only 70% support.
 - ii. She would rather see an 80% support level, with a shelled 5th floor.
- ff. Jeff questioned why fiscal feasibility wasn't accounted for in the program plan or initial design of the building. The building appears to be too much of a dream, and not a realistic project. He believes the Biology department should not have approached the Board with such an extreme ask.
- gg. Jenna also questioned if this is the right time to build this building.
- hh. Amber disagreed that this building is a dream, she thinks it is a necessity. She believes in the need to advance the University.
 - i. Jeff said that maybe they should have asked for funding to renovate the current space, to maintain the space appropriately.
 - ii. Amber answered that they have already tried to renovate the space but are still facing challenges in the current facilities.
- ii. Matt Lancto made a motion to discuss a zero percent increase.
 - i. None seconded.
- jj. Lexi made a motion to move the amendment to a discussion of 70% funding.
- kk. Michelle seconded.
- ll. Discussion open.
 - i. Jenna opened the floor for discussion on a 70% level.
 - ii. Amber added that if only 70% is given, the remaining amount, including the completion of the 5th floor, is too much for the college to raise.
 - iii. Jeff suggested that the Board consider asking the College of Natural Science to revise their program plan and budget of their building to be much less and then return to UFFAB for a future funding request.
 - iv. Amber held strong in her argument that the building is necessary and needs to happen now. She believes it deserves at least 80% support from UFFAB.
 - v. Matt Fergen said that if the University is so considered with the development of this Biology building, they would have considered a back up plan.
 - vi. Jenna asked each member to share what level of support their college council was in favor for.
 - vii. Lexi - Warner College of Natural Resources was supportive of 70%.
 - viii. Lance – College of Agricultural Sciences was supportive of 70-80%.
 - ix. Michelle – CVMBS was unsupportive of any fee increase.
 - x. Ashley – College of Health and Human Sciences was split in half, but most were unsupportive of over 70%.

- xi. Jeff – the Graduate College was supportive of 70%.
- xii. Matt Fergen - College of Business was unsupportive of any fee increase.
- xiii. Matt Lancto - College of Liberal Arts was unsupportive of any fee increase.
- xiv. Amber - College of Natural Science was supportive of 100%.
- xv. Alex - College of Engineering was supportive of 70%.
- xvi. Tamla describes the process of increasing the fee for the Scott Building and mentioned that they were also unsure of their funding levels and eventually finished their project.
- xvii. Michelle asked how long the College of Natural Sciences would be allowed to fundraise before UFFAB pushes the fee increase into effect.
 1. Pat answered that UFFAB could choose to tie a string to the funds, which would be at the discretion of the Board.
- xviii. Matt Lancto made a motion to fund 0% of the Biology building.
- xix. Michelle and Alex seconded.
 1. 3 approved, 3 abstained, 5 opposed.
 2. Motion fails.
- xx. Jeff interjected that funding nothing of the Biology project is mistake and that UFFAB should consider funding some sort of portion of the building.
- xxi. Michelle clarified that CVMBS would like to see the project come back to UFFAB for a future request, with an adjusted plan and budget.
- xxii. Sam thought that all communication to the students about the increase was biased, and a better student survey would have been written by a faculty member, rather than a student who was not in support of the fee increase.
- xxiii. Amber added that she had mixed feelings on the level of funding because she thinks 70% is too low but is hopeful that the College could find some source of funding.
- xxiv. Annalis said that if the College came back with a less expensive building, the Board would be more open to funding it.
- xxv. Andrew mentioned that the LSC asked for about 70+ million in student fees for their renovations. Mike Ellis, Director of the Lory Student Center and students, presented to several student groups over a longer period of time, to gain the support of the students.
- xxvi. Jeff responded that this project should not be UFFAB's responsibility to promote; higher administration should be taking responsibility for it.
- xxvii. Lexi made a motion to move into a vote to support 0% that is currently on the table.
- xxviii. Alex seconded the motion.
 1. 5 approved, 1 abstention, 5 opposed.
 2. Motion fails, due to tie.
- xxix. Lexi made a motion to discuss a 70% level of support for the Biology building.
- xxx. Jeff seconded.
- xxxi. Lexi moved to vote for a 70% funding level and \$5.51 increase for the Biology building
 1. Jeff seconded
 2. 6 approved, 2 abstained, 3 opposed.
 3. Motion passes.
- xxxii. Matt Lancto explained that he voted no to increasing the facility fee to 70% support of the Biology building because his college council is not in support of the fee increase and the burden upon the students.
- xxxiii. Sam voted opposed because she met many students during her campaigning experience and she knows the students do not want a fee increase.
- xxxiv. Michelle explained that though CVMBS is in support of the Biology project, they do not believe it is the right time to increase the fee. They would like to see the proposal come back next year once they know where the stadium project stands because they fear that if the stadium goes through, the pool of private donors that might have been available for future facility projects will have been drained. Additionally, they don't want to fund a fee

increase in which all of the funds are already spoken for. They would like to see a portion of any fee increase dedicated to the general (cash) fund.

- xxxv. The fee increase of \$5.51 with a 70% support level for the Biology Building passes with majority.
- xxxvi. Total fee increase approved = \$5.75/credit hour/student.

IV. Adjourn at 6:10 PM

- a. Next Meeting: April 17th, 2014, 5:00 - 6:00 PM, 303 GSB