

**University Facility Fee Advisory Board**  
Meeting Minutes Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016  
303 GSB

<b>Members Present:</b>	Clayton King	Chair
	Tristan Syron	Vice Chair
	Grace Clark-Rabinowitz	College of Natural Science
	Noah Taherkhani	College of Engineering
	Kalyn Blach	College of Agriculture
	Jeff Cook	Graduate School
	Annalis Norman	CVMBS
	Landon Wright	College of Liberal Arts
<b>Associate Members Present:</b>	Alex Meersman	College of Natural Sciences
	Liz Danke	CVMBS
	Anthony Taylor	College of Liberal Arts
<b>Members at Large Present:</b>	Madison Tolan	CVMBS
<b>Other Members Present:</b>	Becca Wren	Staff Support
	Pat Burns	Ex Officio
	Tom Satterly	Associate Vice President
	Tamla Blunt	Ex Officio
	Savanna Bunnell	Staff Support

**I. Meeting was called to order.**

**II. Approval of minutes from the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

- a. Noah moved to approve the minutes.
- b. Grace seconded.
- c. All those in favor: 8
- d. Opposed: 0
- e. Abstained: 0
- f. Minutes approved

**III. Flipped Classroom Proposal**

- a. Total ask: **\$24,720**
- b. This proposal is for funding to purchase furniture for 3 general assignment classrooms on campus. The 3 classrooms will be flipped classrooms, meaning the furniture will be mobile, to allow classroom configuration conducive to collaboration and active learning.
  - i. The classrooms are Shepardson 102, Education 11 and Education 13.
  - ii. The classes hold 49, 30, and 42 students, respectfully.
- c. This is a low technology project. The money will go towards furniture, whiteboards, and tables with writable surfaces. The focus of the flipped classrooms are hands on learning.
  - i. Studies conducted by TILT have found that the more hands on the teaching style, the higher the content retention. Lecturing has about a 5% retention rate while peer to peer teaching has nearly an 80% retention rate.
  - ii. Flipped classrooms and active learning is another method to reducing DWF rates across core classes like physics, chemistry, and calculus.
- d. In general, students and faculty across campus have had really positive reviews of the classrooms. There has been an increase in demand from instructors to teach in the flipped classrooms. In 2015, TILT gave a

training to about 65 instructors on the active learning model and many more faculty have expressed interest.

- e. The Stadium and Aggie Village North will have some flipped classrooms but there is a need to have more on the main core of campus.
- f. Departments all across campus use flipped classrooms. They offer advantages including increased student collaboration as well as easier access between student and instructor.

**Questions:**

- i. Have you been able to track whether flipped classrooms have reduce the DWF rate?
  - 1. We have to evaluate the effectiveness based on longitudinal trends. It will take time to establish. But, we do know that professors that are using the active learning model are graduating more students than those who are not. The preliminary research is encouraging.
- ii. Are there any students that get assigned these classrooms that do not utilize them in the way they are intended?
  - 1. We cannot make professors teach in a particular way. However, the professors that request these rooms typically do so because they want to shy away from standard lecturing. TILT does a great job reaching out to faculty in these rooms and offers them training. The best way to spread the active learning model is by peer to peer conversation. Some of the older professors were initially against flipped classroom, but more and more are requesting them after hearing positive things about them from the other professors.
- iii. Part of the goal of the flipped classroom design is to help with DWF Rates in the hard sciences, but will there be other classes taught in the new classrooms?
  - 1. The classrooms in this request to UFFAB are all general assignment classrooms, so any department could use them. Right now, there is a wide variety of subjects being taught in the flipped classrooms. The particular classrooms in this request are smaller, so they are more likely to be used by the social sciences. Normally, the hard sciences use the large classrooms.
- g. Legitimacy vote
  - i. Noah moved to legitimize the project.
  - ii. Grace seconded.
  - iii. All those in favor: 8
  - iv. All those opposed: 0
  - v. All those abstained: 0
  - vi. Project is legitimate.

**IV. Warner Computer Classroom Upgrade**

- a. Total Ask **\$71,838.36**
- b. Enrollment in the Warner College of Natural Resources has increased sustainably in the past couple of years. This growth has resulted in a need to expand the computer lab in the Natural Resources building.
- c. The 3 main reasons to update the computer lab are as follows:
  - i. Classes are overcrowded. Multiple students often have to share one computer.
  - ii. Undergraduates may have to extend their graduate date because of enrollment caps.
  - iii. Enrollment is expected to continue to grow.
    - 1. There is anticipated growth of 70% in certain classes over the next 1-5 years including NR 323 and NR 322.
- d. The project will increase the west lab from 24 seats to 28 seats, and the east lab from 25 up to 34.
- e. With this increase in students, the room requires one more exit door to meet fire code, which is included in the projects budget.
- f. There are approximately 20 courses taught in the lab each semester, equaling about 60 credit hours. Therefore, the course taught in the lab brings in an average of \$61,005 to the UFFAB.
- g. WCNR also went to UFFAB, requesting funds for a new projector system to help with visibility in the room.

- h. The WCNR already did some renovating to the space. They removed an old curtain that separated the labs (which was not sound proof) and removed a staff desk that provided extra room for students. They also installed a new dividing wall that is sound proof.
- i. The remodel will include smaller workstations so as to fit more students. The new, flat monitors do not take as much space as they are allotted. It is an inefficient use of space.
- j. If this project does not receive these funds, the project will be very delayed because the department has already used its available funds.

**Questions:**

- i. The lab is overcrowded and delaying graduation. Will an increase of 13 seats alleviate the problem or is it meant to be just a band aid?
    - 1. The WCNR will be have a total building expansion in a few years, so this is really just meant to hold the department over until then. It is needed and it will help graduation timelines but no, this project does not offer a long term solution.
  - ii. How much money was requested from UTFAB?
    - 1. About \$20,000 for two big projector display.
  - iii. How much money did the college spend last summer on renovations?
    - 1. Just under \$30,000.
  - iv. Will/can you accept one boards funding without the other?
    - 1. We will accept any funding we get and use the money accordingly.
  - v. When classes are not being taught in this lab is it available to students as an all-purpose lab?
    - 1. Yes. During the day, the priority of the room is classes. But, if it is free, students are welcome to use the computer lab. They also have the ability to use it at the end of the day and on weekends.
- k. Legitimacy vote
- i. Landon moved to legitimize the project.
  - ii. Jeff seconded.
  - iii. All those in favor: 8
  - iv. All those opposed: 0
  - v. All those abstain: 0
  - vi. Project is legitimate.

**Meeting Adjourn. Next Meeting (VOTING MEETING) Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup>, in GSB 303.**