

University Affair Committee
September 18, 2018; 1:00 meeting at University Center

Present: Michael Scheuerman, Josh Nannestad, Rhonda Richards

Absent: Kathy McDonald, Kate Shannon

Guest: Mike Davis

Committee elected the following:

Chair: Josh Nannestad

Reporter: Rhonda Richards

Two things last year that we worked on and discussed:

(1) carillon is up and running

(2) inquired with campus grounds about maintenance

Updates:

Carillon – rings around 10:00, most songs are fight song at noon and alma matter at 5:00; rings less on Tuesday and Thursday; when power goes out, the clock resets; Rhonda will send around the survey results

Campus grounds – big white dirty walls of the University Center. Dan gave us an estimate of around \$7,000.

New business:

Mike Davis to talk to us about the master plan for the university.

Mike Davis: Master plan for accreditation reports such as HLC. Has not been updated recently due to the inability to invest. As enrollment increases and we are physically healthier and looking at a “planful” way. Purpose is that decisions are not made in an unplanned manner, a reactive way, but a plan. Currently there are 38 buildings to maintain. We should analyze this and determine if this is best. Put it on paper – do we want to renovate, tear down, etc.?

Physical landscape, internal buildings, external buildings – ADA accessibility, drinking fountains, monuments, signage. Physical questions as well as engineering questions. What is the future of university housing. Choctaw and Chickasaw towers had a 45 year life span. Do we build a second Sherrer Hall or something different? We need a plan. University Affairs committee will be the faculty voice for this master plan. We will get input from faculty.

A task force will be formed with University Affairs as part of this committee. Dan Simmons is part of the task force. The committee members will be around 10 people – 5 from UA committee, Dan and other from his department, Mike Davis, student member, staff member.

There are two members from music department. Should not be an issue because we were voted in by faculty.

Discussed Fine Arts building repair. Example of a repair rather than a replacement. Mike explained that the issue was the piping system. Investment of \$333,000 to rescue a building that we need right now.

We have a purpose and a charge. The difficulty will be scheduling and will meet as much as 10 times this year. Master Development Plan Task Force. This may be our committee meetings for the year.

Also, we will discuss little things like name plates and signage within the buildings. Consistent look and feel across the campus. Goal would be that we are done by the next HLC visit – six years. Membership will change as University Affairs committee changes. Consistent with the way other universities have developed their master plan. Considered shared governance. The full Faculty Senate will vote on the final master plan. This needs to be a democratic process so that it will work.

How much money do we have? The more we invest here, the less we invest in other places. We spend \$200,000 in deferred maintenance; we spend \$1,300,000 in utilities each year. For example, if we tear down a building, we may save money on utilities by building a more environmentally sound structure. A big part of the analysis will be determining if we can work with fewer, nicer buildings. Biology building has no insulation and incurs large utility bills. Choctaw and Chickasaw will need new plumbing and we will need to analyze this decision.

What we need to do to prepare for the future meetings? Start making a wish list of things we have noticed. Engage with colleagues in conversation, not email or survey, and ask what their thoughts are.

Leslie House will be turned into a museum. Janie Umstead might have some interest in the Amphitheater.