

Minutes of the Meeting of the University Planning Committee

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 10:30 AM, Gilmour Hall, Council Room (Room 111)

- PRESENT:** Susan Tighe (Chair), Carmela Alfaro-Laganse, Karen Bird, Arlene Dosen, Ori Epstein, Saher Fazilat, Khaled Hassanein, Steve Hranilovic, Mark Larché, Jake Nease, Brenda Vrkljan, Nicole Wager, Andrea Thyret-Kidd, (University Secretary & Privacy Officer), Christine Richard, (Associate University Secretary), Sherri Keene, (Assistant University Secretary)
- OBSERVERS:** Dina Brooks, Kim Dej, Matheus Grasselli, Sean Van Koughnett
- CONSULTANTS:** Debbie Martin, Melissa Pool
- INVITED:** Dave Cano, *Director, Sustainability, Facility Services*
Lalita Goray, *Director, Design and Construction, Facility Services*
- REGRETS:** Ryan Clarke, David Farrar, Lauren Fink, Andy Knights, Lili Litwin, Abdul Razak Alozi
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OPEN SESSION

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – November 22, 2023 (Open Session)

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the University Planning Committee approve the open session minutes of the meeting held on November 22, 2023, as circulated.

The motion was **Carried; 1 abstention.**

Chair's Comments and Update

Susan Tighe, *Provost and Vice-President (Academic)*, highlighted that the Provost's Office recently received the International Recruitment Strategy developed by a consultant from the United Kingdom. Provost's Council has reviewed the Strategy to determine the next steps and it was noted that this will be important to plan not only next year but also the following years. The consultant provided constructive feedback and the focus will now be on how to execute the Strategy.

S. Tighe invited Melissa Pool, *Associate Vice President, Academic Planning and Finance*, to provide an update on the Budget Model Review implementation. M. Pool advised a

working group has been formed to discuss how the Budget Model supports research, with representatives from across the University and includes Deans, Directors of Finance and Administration, faculty members, among others. Meetings are scheduled to be held over the next 3 months. While the working group is still in the early stages, the plan is to provide recommendations to the Provost. Work is also being conducted around Service Level Agreements (SLAs). SLAs are about the strategic use of McMaster resources and standardization of projects from groups across campus. S. Tighe noted that it is important that the University is moving forward together and welcomes the broad representation across the University with regard to the Budget Model Review working group.

S. Tighe noted that she recently attended an alumni event on the West Coast with the President. Each Faculty was represented at the event and Members heard that the University has not been as proactive in the alumni space as it could be. S. Tighe emphasized the importance of meeting with alumni to hear their stories and what they have accomplished since graduation.

3. Business Arising

There was no business arising.

4. Report from the Office of the Provost

S. Tighe provided an overview of the Report from the Office of the Provost.

The Committee discussed the concept of industry professors and whether this is an initiative that the University is exploring. S. Tighe explained that consultations would need to take place with Faculty Deans to understand if this is a model that would be embraced however this is not an initiative being explored at this time. With the launch of Wilson College, there will be opportunities for visiting scholars and to recruit prominent colleagues to have residency to teach. Members also discussed opportunities for alumni to be engaged in ways beyond financial transactions and noted opportunities for connections in areas of policy and government as well.

This item is for information.

5. Other Business

There was no other business.