

McMaster University

UNIVERSITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.
Council Room (Room 111), Gilmour Hall

PRESENT: Dr. D. Farrar (Chair), Dr. D. Welch, Dr. S. Hanna, Dr. A. McQueen, Dr. G. Goward, Ms A. Dosen, Mr. R. Narro Perez, Mr. T. Heath, Ms H. Ayre (Acting University Secretary), Ms M. Zheng (Associate University Secretary), Ms A. Suckert (Governance Coordinator)

OBSERVERS: Dr. S. Denburg, Dr. S. Searls Giroux

CONSULTANTS: Ms L. Coslovi

INVITED: Ms Debbie Martin, Assistant Vice-President and Chief Facilities Officer
Dr Arig al Shaibah, Associate Vice-President, Equity and Inclusion
Dr. Ameil Joseph, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work
Mr. Iain Clarkson, Budget Director
Ms Anne Pottier, Associate University Librarian

REGRETS RECEIVED: Dr. S. Labarge, Mr. P. Douglas, Mr. B. Merkel, Mr. R. Couldrey, Dr. J. Richardson, Dr. A. Campos

A. OPEN SESSION

1 MINUTES of the Open Session meeting of March 20, 2019

The minutes of the **March 20, 2019** open session meeting were **approved** as circulated.

2 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

3 CHAIR'S COMMENTS AND UPDATES

There have been no new updates since the previous University Planning Committee meeting.

4 McMASTER ACCESSIBILITY COUNCIL 2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Ms Anne Pottier, Associate University Librarian, provided the Committee with an overview of the McMaster Accessibility Council 2017-2018 Annual Report. Ms Pottier explained that an updated accessibility policy will be forthcoming. Ms Pottier has worked with Dr. A. al Shaibah and Ms D. Martin on an Accessibility Action Plan which will be launched later this year. There is ongoing relationship building and work with the Employee Accessibility Network and the Equity and Inclusion Office to provide Equitable and Accessible Workplace Accommodations training for McMaster managers and employees. This work has provided the opportunity to connect across the campus and to act as a consultant.

The Committee discussed accessible education, streamlining the training and making it a requirement.

In response to a question, Ms Pottier explained that every building on campus is accessible to one degree or another. There will be a map to highlight the accessible points for each building. An audit of all washrooms will be completed to identify all accessible washrooms.

The Committee discussed inclement weather and what determines if the campus remains open. Ms. Martin noted that it is helpful if individuals communicate if there are paths or areas that are slippery or heavy with snow. The safety app is being promoted which allows individuals to report unsafe areas right from their phone.

Ms Pottier withdrew from the meeting.

5 2019-2020 CONSOLIDATED BUDGET

Dr. Steve Hanna and Mr. Iain Clarkson, Budget Director, presented the Consolidated Budget.

Dr. Hanna thanked Mr. Clarkson, colleagues, Dr. Farrar and Mr. Couldrey for their work on the budget. Dr. Hanna noted that although there are funding changes by MTCU, the consolidated budget is still structurally balanced. Highlighted was the 10% cut to tuition this year and a tuition freeze next year for domestic students. It was noted that some of the capital projects underway are no longer funded, such as the MD and Graduate Expansion Grants, and may have to be put on hold.

The domestic enrolment cap was set at the 2016/17 level and in response to funding changes, the University has increased its attention and targets on diversified international enrolment. Other revenue growth is in the planning stage and includes increasing professional Masters programs and increasing utilization of the campus in the summer.

A member asked a question regarding decreasing scholarships and increasing tuition. Dr. Hanna noted that they are aware of the problem: the challenge is in finding the resources. The current plan is to fundraise to support scholarships.

The Committee discussed risks and whether targets can be achieved. Dr. Hanna will look into investments in infrastructure and strategic priorities and report back to the Committee.

Dr. Farrar thanked the Budgeting Services office and the Budget Committee.

Mr. Clarkson withdrew from the meeting.

6 PRESIDENT’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY (PACBIC) ANNUAL REPORT

Dr. Arig al Shaibah, Associate Vice-President, Equity and Inclusion and Dr. Ameil Joseph, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, provided members with an overview of the work of the President’s Advisory Committee on Building an Inclusive Community Annual Report.

The report is a celebration of achievements. PACBIC addresses issues of equality and diversity and has supported and partnered with a number of initiatives across campus. PACBIC looks at attending to the needs of marginalized groups and raises voices and concerns regarding areas for improvement. Dr. al Shaibah explained that PACBIC has the ability to advance the EDI strategy.

The University is committed to hiring Indigenous faculty but is limited by the availability of faculty and the market demand. An AADS (Africa and African Diaspora Studies) minor was previously approved, however there is concern with the administrative support for the minor.

Dr. al Shaibah and Dr. Joseph withdrew from the meeting.

7 CYCLICAL PROGRAM REVIEWS

Dr. Susan Searls Giroux and Dr. Doug Welch provided an overview of the Final Assessment Reports for the Cyclical Program Reviews. This item is provided for information.

Dr. Welch explained that the IQAP reviews are working well and that the intentions of the process are being met.

Dr. Searls Giroux noted there was an audit in November and the process worked well, the Deans continue to support it.

A question was raised regarding the flow of student data. Student data is generated through IRA. Some of the tables that have been generated require clarification to ease the interpretation and IRA has been very responsive when approached for assistance in this area. It was noted that plans to use Mosaic for data are in the works and efforts are ongoing to improve the data provided.

8 CAPITAL PLAN

Ms Martin, Assistant Vice-President/Chief Facilities Officer, provided members with an overview of the Capital Plan.

Ms Martin explained that the process is being streamlined. The document is thinner than previous years because the history component has been removed and added to the website. The plan lists capital projects that are underway, projects that are fully funded and projects that are on the wish list. Ms Martin noted that it is not a fixed document as projects need to be able to move around on the list as priorities change.

A written update will be going to the Planning and Resources Committee regarding the status of the LRT plan. The Government has announced an investment and plans are moving forward quickly. Construction is expected to begin in 2021.

A question was asked regarding the STEM Academic Building. Ms Martin explained that the location will be the footprint of the T13, temporary building, by the hospital. It was noted that it would be at least a decade before any work on this proposal is commenced, as there are other areas where significant impacts can be made.

It was duly moved and seconded,

that the University Planning Committee approve, for recommendation to the Board of Governors, the 2019/2020 Capital Plan.

The motion was **carried**.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business for the open session portion of the meeting.