



Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC)

Minutes of Meeting: 10/18/24

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Present: Jefferson Williams, Geoffrey Chatas (VP and CFO), Sara Soderstrom (Chair), Becky Peterson, Julie Boland, Vance Jackson, Vilma Mesa (SACUA Liaison), Francine Dolins, Hsiao Sung

Absent: Daniel Nemser, Silvia Pedraza, Gillian White, Pamela Wong

Guests:

Jen Vetter, Lead Project Manager, Office of Planning and Strategic Initiatives
Sue Gott, Associate Director for Planning and Communication

Faculty Senate Office: Eric Vandenberghe

2:00pm-2:04pm: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes, Announcements

The agenda was approved. The minutes for the September FAAC meeting were approved. Introductions were made. Considerations for dialogue are shared by the Chair.

2:04pm-2:18pm: Presentation on Campus Plan and Connector

Summary: The Chair introduces the guests. Extensive work has gone into Campus Plan 2050 over the past 18 months. A new [website](#) is available that lays out the plans for Campus Plan 2050. A video is shown that shares the basic summary of the Campus plan 2050.

Further discussion ensues on the transit system on the Ann Arbor campus. Sustainability is a key aspect of this plan. Improvements to the bus system are discussed. This information is laid out on the Campus 2050 [website](#): "... a high-capacity public transportation system that utilizes dedicated lanes, priority signaling, and other infrastructure improvements to provide faster, more reliable bus service."

Discussion shifts to the proposed "Automated Transit System (ATS)." This proposed system consists of "a network of automated vehicles or guided transit systems that operate on dedicated tracks or guideways. These systems often use advanced technologies such as sensors, computer control, and automation to provide efficient and convenient transportation solutions, particularly in dense urban areas." Concerns are raised about the placement of such a system, with a request for further oversight. Clarifications are made on the flexibility of the current plan; it is confirmed that more planning will take place and none of the plans set at this time regarding the ATS. Potential benefits of such a system are shared.

Action: Presentation



2:18pm-3:05pm: Dialogue and Q&A

Summary: At the conclusion of the presentation, the floor is opened to the members for further discussion. A member requests further collaboration with the local government to ensure that historical sites are maintained, with specific contacts offered, and accepted. A call is made for further engagement with the citizens of Ann Arbor. The guest elaborated on some of the feedback and community outreach that went into the planning.

A call is made to heavily consider the ecological impact of any proposed changes. Discussion ensues on this topic.

A comment is made that the Campus 2050 heavily focuses on the physical elements of the campus, but that it is important to also consider the concurrent plans for academic activities such as enrollment and changes at the school/college/unit level. The guest explained that the Provost handles those matters.

A question is asked about campus plans for the Flint and Dearborn campuses. These have been ongoing, with the Flint plan announced at the most recent Regent's meeting. The Dearborn plan is also in the works. The guest indicates she has been in contact with her counterparts at the other campuses to share knowledge and ensure constructive collaboration. A comment is made about the differing resources available on the three campuses, with concern for how this would impact the Flint and Dearborn plans.

Logistics regarding transportation planning are discussed. The ATS will include parking areas further from campus that will allow people to commute onto campus. The current on-campus parking is discussed. Discussion ensues on patient parking.

Discussion on housing ensues. There is a need for affordable housing in the area. The guests and CFO provide insight into plans to help address this concern.

Questions about sustainability are asked. AI is discussed particularly in regards to the energy needs. Solar energy is discussed. Work from home is brought up.

Questions about the expansion of childcare and eldercare are asked. There is an acute shortage of childcare in the area which affects faculty, staff and students.

Action: Discussion

3:05pm: Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Vandenberghe
Faculty Governance Coordinator
Faculty Senate Office