

Minutes of FAP Meeting #4 AY2020-21

24 August 2020

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Meeting Held Electronically via ZOOM

Members Attending: Nancy Burnham (Chair), Joseph Fehribach (FBC Chair, Secretary, *pro tem*), George Pins (RPC Representative), Jeff Solomon (Executive Vice President/CFO), Kris Sullivan (Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs), Tanja Dominko (Secretary of the Faculty; Attending for the second half of this Meeting)

Member Absent: Mike Radzicki (Secretary)

- The meeting was called to order by the chair at 13:04.
- Discussion of Logistics:
 - FAP agreed to meet on Mondays at 3pm during Fall, 2020.
 - FAP agreed that, pending agreement of APG, Prof. Fehribach would replace Prof. Burnham as the FAP representative on APG for Fall, 2020. [Subsequently APG has agreed.]
 - FAP briefly discussed how it might organize itself after the upcoming election. No decisions were made pending the arrival of a new committee member at the start of B term.
- Discussion of the AY 2020-21 Budget (Covid Budget):
 - Tuition revenues are looking okay for now. Undergraduate student enrollment was projected to be down 5% at 4450; current enrollment numbers look to be at or near 4600 which is close to level with AY 2019-20. Graduate student enrollment, on the other hand, was projected to be down 20% and unfortunately this projection still seems accurate. The actual tuition revenues will be clearer by the beginning of September. Auxiliary revenues (room and board) are also currently looking a bit better than feared, but any gains from additional revenues are offset by the cost of covid testing (\$11M), the cost of the hotel (\$2.5M), etc.
- Prof. Dominko joined the meeting at 13:30.
- Further Discussion of the AY 2020-21 Budget (Covid Budget):
 - The advantages and disadvantages of antigen (saliva) versus PCR (nasal) tests were discussed.
 - Academic Affairs has been staffing for the coming year at the upper level allowed by the budget. There will be 156 TAs across WPI.

- Brief Discussions of Other Topics:
 - Issues/Concerns regarding changes with graduate health insurance were reviewed.
 - FBC has met to discuss/review changes in health care plans for the coming year. The major changes pertain to the HSA plan where the deductible limits and the WPI contribution to each HSA will increase significantly. There will also be a new 20% co-pay in place once the deductible limit is reached, but the \$5,000/\$10,000 out-of-pocket caps will still be in place.
 - Faculty salary benchmarking was reviewed with a view to report on this benchmarking at an upcoming Faculty meeting.
- The meeting ended at 14:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph D. Fehribach,

Secretary, *pro tem*