

WPI FBC Minutes - Meeting #5 of AY 21-22

2/25/2022

**Members in Attendance:** Mike Radzicki, Joseph Sarkis, Dan DiMassa, Liz Chirico, Laura Roberts, Shams Bhada, Mark Santiago,

**Absent:** Jon Abraham, Dirk Albrecht, Nicole Caligiuri, Jessica Sabourin, Karen Coghlan

**Guests:** Kelly Draper (T&I), Laura Richards (T&I), Lauren Turner (T&I)

1. Meeting Called to Order by Mike Radzicki 9:02
2. Board of Trustees meeting and FAP update. Updates on retirement benefits issue. Discussion on retirement benefits was “indirectly” discussed at BOT last week in Budget Committee meeting. FAP discussion came out to be that a holistic picture of benefits must be taken with other budget concerns and overall intangible benefits of good benefits package – e.g. attracting and retaining personnel.
3. COACHE study showed that there was serious concern and unhappiness amongst faculty on Benefits cuts. This an issue that will be discussed as COACHE study is further discussed in faculty meetings and committees.
4. Lauren Turner – Salaries are also a concern. Comprehensive compensation review, staff and faculty. There are a number of proposals for Mental Health and Well-Being which represents other priorities. These represent the more holistic aspect. We were able to get additional employee assistance program and it will be monitored. Tuition benefits will be updated as well. Salary issues will also arise as inflationary pressures.
5. Discussion around history of benefits and cuts. COVID – WPI Forward confounding situation discussed. But the outcome of surplusses and relatively success financially meant that we were doing well.
6. Part of holistic issue is affordability for students and diversity in budget. New Buildings, facilities.
  
7. We will put together a resolution on the Retirement Benefits issue that will be discussed and voted upon and sent to FAP, if so moved.

Respectfully Submitted

Joseph Sarkis, acting secretary of FBC

