

Committee on Financial and Administrative Policy (FAP): Minutes

Meeting #5: Sept. 25, 2023

Zoom

10 – 11 am

Members Present: Hal Walker (CEAE, Chair), Rob Dempski (CBC), Tahar El-Korchi (COG Appointee); Suzanne LePage (CEAE), Joseph Sarkis (BUS), Stephan Sturm (MA)

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.
2. Agenda was approved as distributed.
3. Professor Tahar El-Korchi of CEAE was introduced as the COG Appointee.
4. Approval of Minutes, FAP Meetings #2, #3, #4. Only FAP Meeting #4 minutes were approved; with votes on minutes for Meeting #2 and #3 to be completed by email as edits are finalized.
5. FAP topic discussion and action prioritization during AY 23-24 was the first issue addressed during the meeting. The initial results of the Microsoft forms community survey were reviewed. The survey will be open until the end of September.

The community survey results were summarized into a document and shared with FAP. An initial review showed that 35 comments from the community were included.

Some initial discussion ensued pointing out some potential common themes and steps forward. Compensation and benefits seemed to be of greater importance, especially the return of retirement benefits contribution from WPI to Pre-COVID levels and compensation increases and equity. More details and categorizations are needed before a thoughtful agenda can be put forward.

FAP decided that the next step was categorizing comments, followed by a prioritization of categories. There were also other issues raised at the first FAP meeting that will be combined with community comments. Issues pertaining to the budget overview from FAP meetings #2 and #3 will also be considered in the prioritization of topics to be addressed by FAP.

6. Discussion of Campus Framework Plan for Facilities. There will be a separate meeting for the Facility Framework – 10-year master plan. FAP was invited, but there was a concern that the full voice of the faculty is missing and questions about the purpose of this meeting. Specific concern on the planning process and how faculty voice will be integrated and engaged were discussed briefly.
7. Discussion on Secretary of FAP for B-term was delayed.

8. Meeting was adjourned at 10:52 am

Respectfully,

Joseph Sarkis
FAP Secretary