

Oregon Institute of Technology

ACADEMIC COUNCIL RETREAT

September 16, 2018

MINUTES

Provost Gary Kuleck called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Academic Council members present were: Steve Addison, Abdy Afjeh, Seth Anthony, Sharon Beaudry, Todd Breedlove, Hope Corsair, Joseph Reid for Tiernan Fogarty, MariaLynn Kessler, Tom Keyser, Debbie McCollam, Jeff Pardy, Lloyd Parratt, Dan Peterson, Paula Russell, Maureen Sevigny, Matthew Sleep, Sean St.Clair, Dawn Taylor, Ken Usher, Erika Veth, Adam Wagner, Jack Walker, and Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen. Wendy Ivie, LeAnn Maupin, and Farooq Sultan were absent. Roger Lindgren, Hallie Neupert, and Mark Neupert are on sabbatical and will join remotely when able.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Provost Gary Kuleck welcomed all in attendance. Dr. Kuleck introduced Dr. Tom Keyser, Dean, College of Engineering, Technology and Management and Dr. Abdy Afjeh, Associate Provost for Research & Academic Affairs and gave a brief background on both. Dr. Kuleck then introduced the following new Department Chairs: Hope Corsair (EERE), Adam Wagner (Interim Chair, EMS), MariaLynn Kessler (Interim Chair, HSS), Maureen Sevigny and Sharon Beaudry (Co-Interim Chairs, MGT), Steve Addison (MMET), and Lloyd Parratt (Associate Chair, NSC).

Dr. Kuleck thanked all who were involved with recent faculty hires, adding that there are 20 new faculty members between the two colleges. Dr. Kuleck stated that some of the key topics addressed by Academic Council last year were:

- Setting up strong dean and chair models – to help the University grow its strategic mission.
- Educating undergrad and grad students to prepare them for the workforce.
- Taking steps to strengthen ties with industry.
- Completing the workload process – Dr. Kuleck is hopeful that the coming year will be much easier.

CEET BUILDING

Dr. Kuleck stated that two years ago TVA Architects, Inc. was hired to complete a conceptual design for the Center for Excellence in Engineering and Technology (CEET). Last year, TVA worked with a group of Oregon Tech faculty, administrators, and staff to create a vision for a center of innovation with a physical structure that would attract students and excite alumni. Dr. Kuleck added that, in an effort to encourage collaboration and to create a space where students can thrive, there will be no department ownership of the building. In July 2018, TVA submitted the final visioning and programming process report. Dean Tom Keyser stated that the report link was shared out to the Council to provide an opportunity for Chairs to give general input and explore collaborative laboratory and classroom spaces. Dr. Keyser added that the University has funding for the building shell but needs to think about funding for interior items such as equipment.

Sharon Beaudry served on the working group and stated that the TVA Design Team was fabulous to work. Over a four-month period, TVA led the group through a very strategic process, beginning with formulating a mission statement. Beaudry added that TVA really grasped the vision and used key elements from the mission statement throughout the design, considering elements such as noise, display spaces, and a view corridor.

Brian Moravec and Beaudry showed the Council several architect rendering slides with various floor arrangements and viewpoints. Beaudry added that although they are only envisioning ideas, the group felt strongly that there be no ownership of the building and that it includes the following features:

- A lot of glass
- Collaborative spaces
- Maker spaces – large, separate, glassed-in spaces where all can view what is happening and become excited about the projects
- Community office spaces – no individual office space except for graduate offices
- Incubator spaces with movable walls
- A glass bridge over the sight line

Three pages of the report (pages 19-21, floor plan space diagrams) were enlarged and printed for Council review. Council members were seated at four separate tables. Each table was given a set of drawings and time to discuss. Council members shared the following comments/suggestions:

- *Need another large classroom space*
- *How can labs be multi-use, generic spaces?*
- *Lab spaces and applied research labs need to be managed to some degree due to safety issues, tools, and equipment*
- *Want students to be at the space – tend to hang out where they have classes*
- *Lab issues- heavy loads, monuments, equipment that needs to stay*
- *Ventilation in labs*
- *Are there family/gender neutral/lactation spaces? – student populations are changing*
- *Lab managers – is there an office?*
- *Who do you contact if you have an issue?*
- *Small food space – is that feasible?*
- *Project display area blocks the study area – maybe make them movable*
- *Seems to be more meeting rooms than classrooms*
- *More computer labs – flexible to include chemistry*
- *Will lose 40-50 parking spaces – maybe make geothermal bike or scooter paths?*
- *Coffee shop in PV makes classes hard to teach – don't have coffee shops near classrooms*
- *Glasswork will need to be kept clean*
- *Lab technicians will need to be on staff to keep showcases looking nice*
- *Glass is a safety concern – active shooter and earthquakes*
- *Building should attract student and alumni, where businesses want to work with us*
- *Hopefully will attract phenomenal students*
- *Lower level plan – utility room needs a door*
- *Likes the color coding – could it be incorporated in the actual building?*
- *Food – outside vendor space for food trucks*
- *Importance of wayfinding*
- *If this will be the new campus entrance, Admissions should have a presence*
- *A hangout place for the community – make inviting and offer more outdoor seating and a coffee shop*
- *Brew pub on top floor with seating to oversee the soccer field*
- *Smaller more flexible areas*
- *Not a lot of conferences held on campus – need a space to host*
- *A mall of buildings could be created along the view corridor (all being interconnected with a good flow) at a relatively minimal cost*

Dr. Keyser stated that comments will also be solicited from faculty. All suggestions will be compiled and shared out at a later date and sent to TVA.

NEXT MEETING

The Retreat will continue on Monday, September 17, 2018 at 7:30 am.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Valjean Newsome