

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
FINANCIAL CRISIS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE
Monday, October 10, 2016

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**Monday, October 10, 2016
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Coe Library 506; University of Wyoming Campus**

AGENDA

Call to Order	1
Roll Call and Approval of Minutes.....	1
Public Session	
I. Discussion: Town Hall Meeting	
II. Discussion: Collection of Comments During the Comment Period	
III. Discussion: Establishment of a Q/A Post Site	
IV. Public Comment	
Adjournment	3

Call to Order

Committee Chair Steve Bieber called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes

Committee members present included: Provost Kate Miller, Vice President for Administration Bill Mai, Dean of the College of Law Clint Alexander, Dean of the Outreach School Susan Frye, Dr. Frederic Sterbenz, Dr. Robert Sprague, Dr. Donal O'Toole, Dr. R. McGreggor Cawley, Committee Chair Steve Bieber, Ms. Rachael Stevens, Ms. Molly Marcusse, Mr. Kevin Colman, Ms. Rachel Stevens, and Mr. Joel Defebaugh.

Dr. Cawley motioned to pass the minutes from October 3, 2016. Mr. Coleman seconded. All committee members voted to pass the minutes unanimously.

Public Session

Discussion: Town Hall Meeting

Committee Chair Bieber stated that the next Town Hall Meeting would take place on Wednesday, October 12, 2016. He explained that he would begin the presentation at the Town Hall Meeting with remarks and a chance to introduce the members of the FCAC. Committee Chair Bieber stated that during this time he would explain the remaining timeline for the FCAC during the comment period. He noted that he would state that feedback could be provided through faculty and staff senates, ASUW, and the UWPres email account. Committee Chair Bieber added that the Town Hall Meeting would then consist of the president's presentation of the financial plan, and the Rob Godby will conclude with a presentation on the student fees. He explained that the final financial plan would be explained and distributed to the members of the campus community. Committee Chair Bieber explained that the actual plan and news release would be sent during the Town Hall Meeting, while the President explained how the plan was organized. He added that once the plan was released the FCAC did not have any officially scheduled meetings until October 28, 2016 which would be the final day of the comment period for the members of campus on the financial plan. Committee Chair Bieber explained that at this point the committee should have comments from faculty, staff, and students among others regarding the financial plan. He explained that the next official meeting of the committee would be a time to present any comments received to President Nichols so that she would have the ability to further revise the plan if necessary. Committee Chair Bieber noted that any meeting between the current session and the end of the comment period was to be decided by the members of the committee.

Members of the committee expressed concern that members of the campus community would not be able to provide proper comment or ask important questions if they were not able to see the financial plan prior to this meeting. Committee Chair Bieber explained that this forum may not be the best place for the more in depth questions and reactions to take place. He added that the plan document that would be distributed to the campus community was the document that the committee had seen at their previous meeting with President Nichols. Committee Chair Bieber explained that President Nichols would discuss each point of the FY18 reductions individually with a brief summary to follow. Members of the committee asked why a question and answer portion had been introduced to this Town Hall Meeting as that had not been in the original plan for the meeting so that members of the campus community would have the opportunity to review the plan closely before the comment and question period was opened. It was explained that

answers to questions would be answered to the best of the ability of each vice president regarding their units or by President Nichols.

Discussion: Collection of Comments During the Comment Period

Committee Chair Bieber asked the committee members how they would like to collect comments during the comment period following the presentation of the plan at the Town Hall Meeting. He noted that through conversations with President Nichols it had been decided that there would be a page on the President's Office website to facilitate frequently asked questions. Committee Chair Bieber explained that questions that had presented themselves often across campus would be answered on this website as to provide a concrete answer to anyone who might ask. He added one avenue he would like to explore would be receiving comments from UW Alumni through the assistance of the Alumni Association. Committee Chair Bieber discussed working with the Planning Committee of Faculty Senate to provide comments. Members of the committee suggested the importance of having another public session of the FCAC where members of the campus community could attend and ask questions and have the ability to clear up any misconceptions that might be present. Another member of the committee suggested a phone line where additional comments could be taken from anyone across the state as well as perhaps sending copy of the plan to the Wyoming Legislature for their comment. Members of the committee discouraged the use of a phone line in the sense that it might get chaotic and not serve the committee as well as other avenues. A member of the committee noted that through formal press releases members of the Wyoming Legislature would have the same access to the plan and comment options as anyone across the state or the campus community. The committee noted the importance of sending all communications through the typical avenues so that individuals received information from a familiar source to make sure the solicitation for comments were not filtered into clutter and spam folders.

A member of the committee suggest that these emails come directly from President Nichols which would have a large impact on the process as she would be reaching out to as many constituents as possible. However, it was added that the ability to filter comments by how each individual commenting was affiliated with UW would be important to the overall process. The committee stated that each group after receiving all comments would compile their comments to present common themes and important ideas that were submitted for the committees' consideration. The committee discussed the short turnaround time present between the presentation of the plan at the Town Hall Meeting and the completion of the comment period and noted that it was important for comments to be received by the committee in a timely manner so that they could be taken into full consideration. The committee discussed the importance to hold an open comment session for those wishing to provide comment to attend a meeting where their questions could be answered. Committee Chair Bieber suggested that the committee hold two sessions on Monday, October 17, 2016 and Friday, October 21, 2016 at the regular committee meeting times.

The members of the committee stated that comments could be collected through faculty senate, staff senate, ASUW, the Alumni Association, and the UWPres email address for anyone wishing to make comments. Committee Chair Bieber noted that this information and the time of the listening sessions would be announced during the Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday. Members of the committee suggested opportunities for people across the state to comment through a Saturday meeting or the outreach centers across the state. The committee decided that the two

scheduled sessions would be the best avenue and the open comment email processes would allow the committee and the President to receive the most information possible.

A member of the committee stated that they believed there should be some wording changes to the preamble that was included in the plan that was to be presented at the Town Hall Meeting. Committee Chair Bieber stated that any committee member wishing to make changes to the preamble could submit those changes to him for consideration no later than the following day and a final version would be distributed to the committee for approval before the Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday. He noted any suggestions should bear in mind that this process was intended to bring the UW community together and show a united front, especially since this comradery had been seen across all of campus.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The committee entered Executive Session at 1:45 p.m. The Committee motioned to adjourned their meeting at 2:45 p.m.