

**PLANNING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (P & R)  
FINAL REPORT, 2018-2019**

**Committee Membership:**

Faculty representatives:

Scott McEathron (Chair), Libraries (2019)  
Ron Barrett-Gonzalez, Aerospace Engineering (2019)  
Meredith Chung, Law (2021)  
Sara Morris, Libraries (2021)

Staff representatives:

Heather MacBean, Libraries (2020)  
Robert Waller, Budget Mgmt/Fiscal Services (2021)  
Jason O'Connor, Business (2021)

Student representatives:

Voting Student: Lev Comolli  
Voting Graduate Student: Sharad Richardet

Ex-Officio members:

Diane Goddard, Vice Provost for Administration and Finance  
Deb Teeter, OIRP

The sections that follow address committee activities and recommendations with respect to our standing and specific charges for the year. The committee will need two new faculty representatives next year.

**STANDING CHARGES**

*1. Participate in the University's planning processes by communicating with the Provost and the Provost's senior staff on matters of capital strategic planning, infrastructure, IT resources, and sustainability, and examine how current financial circumstances (the health of the state economy, current university indebtedness, school-specific fees and charges, etc.) will influence such projects. Coordinate with ACEC of IT matters. Report issues and any recommendations for action to Sen Ex.* (ongoing)

**Committee Activities:**

- Issues related to planning and budget were conducted in a more transparent environment this year as Interim Provost Lejuez hosted several open budget meetings. Also, University Senate and the campus as a whole paid a lot of attention to budget related issues this year. Representatives of the committee attended all the Provost's budget meetings.
- The committee also received in-person updates from Vice Provost Diane Goddard. In addition, James Modig, University Architect, and Mark Reiske, Director of Facilities Planning & Development, provided the committee with an update to the Campus Master Plan during our December 14, 2018 meeting.
- Members of the committee (McEathron and Waller) participated in a series of Energy Policy Stakeholder meetings in the Spring 2019—providing feedback to the Center for

Sustainability on proposed revisions to the Energy Conservation Policy and Campus Energy Conservation Standards.

**Committee Recommendations:**

- A major concern identified by the committee was the lack of any involvement by any representative from University Governance in the capital planning process. We believe University Governance should request representation (possibly a member from this committee) on the Campus Planning Advisory Board. Also, a representative could serve on the Capital Projects Council and the Campus Planning Executive Committee.

***2. Monitor the University budget. When current financial circumstances result in changes to annual spending plans, advise SenEx and suggest any actions the committee would deem helpful.*** (ongoing)

**Committee Activities:**

- A representative from the committee will attend the budget hearings this spring and summer. The University administration is changing the budgeting process during the next three years; the committee should continue to monitor the new budget model.

**Committee Recommendations:**

- The committee should continue to monitor the implementation of the new budget model and advise SenEx. Areas that we feel are important include assessing how the new model may be impacting specific schools or departments.
  - What are the major “outliers” –Schools/departments that have seen major changes in their budgets?

***3. Provide committee representation at hearings held by the Provost and the Provost’s senior staff to review planning reports and budgetary submissions made by the various units. Report issues and any recommendations to SenEx for consideration.*** (ongoing)

**Committee Activities:**

- The budget hearings have just been scheduled. We have developed a schedule for committee members to attend the hearings and will provide additional information to SenEx when they conclude in late July if necessary.

**Committee Recommendations:**

- None at this time.

***4. Continue to monitor changes in tuition plans and their effects on allocation of resources across the university. Focus on out-of-state students receiving in-state tuition and the redirection of scholarships to in-state student with financial need. Report recommendations to SenEx for action.***

### **Committee Activities:**

The committee meet with Charles Bankart, Associate Vice Provost for International Programs, on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Dr. Bankart provided the committee with an overview of KU's current efforts to directly recruit international students.

### **Committee Recommendations:**

- Continue to monitor enrollment trends and changes in tuition plans and their potential effects on enrollment and revenue generation.

### **SPECIFIC CHARGES**

***1. Monitor and examine the partnerships between KU and outside contractors and consultants. Work with the University Senate President and Provost to determine the benefits of major consultancy contracts between KU and outside contractors and consultants.***

The committee met in a special meeting with Diane Goddard to specifically review the service agreement between Shorelight and the University of Kansas. The contract is currently being revised to more accurately reflect current operations (to include housing deadlines, fees payable, and performance metrics).

***2. Report on the Central district Master Plan. Monitor the funding sources and dollar amounts to be used to pay off interest and principal on the bonds used to finance the Plan, and how that portfolio of sources and amounts may affect the University's credit.***

The committee met with James Modig, University Architect, and Mark Reiske, Director of Facilities Planning & Development, also provided the committee with an update to the Campus Master Plan during our December 14, 2018 meeting.

### **Committee Recommendations:**

- As previously stated, we believe University Governance should request representation (possibly a member from this committee) on the Campus Planning Advisory Board. Also, a representative could serve on the Capital Projects Council and the Campus Planning Executive Committee.
- The committee is also concerned that space utilization for offices, labs, and classrooms may not be optimal. Better space utilization has the potential to reduce the University's operational and deferred maintenance costs if older, less efficient buildings could be taken out of service. A joint administrative and governance group could be charged with auditing space on campus in order to make specific recommendations to the Provost.

***3. Evaluate the operational costs of all KU's new buildings (and old) for the potential for green energy.***

- Encourage administration to allow fewer exceptions to the new Energy Conservation Policy and standards and provide incentives to units that achieve more efficient usage.
- See recommendation regarding space above.

#### ***4. Look into the use of course fees.***

No specific actions were taken on this charge.

### **OVERALL THOUGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANNING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE:**

The committee encourages governance to continue the engagement with administration on financial concerns. Below are recommendations and questions that the committee felt were of importance in the coming years that have not been addressed in this report.

- We encourage a role for governance to provide input on KU Priorities to KU Endowment.
- What are the quality control and evaluation procedures for newly completed capital projects?
- How will students be counted for the new budget model?
- Regularize flight operations.
- Create more opportunities for student involvement in the actual business affairs of the University.
- Increase the number and participation of voting student members on governance committees; improve incentives for students to participate (e.g. service learning credits).
- Improve incentives for staff participation in governance.
- P & R should be utilized as University Senate's representatives on campus budget issues when appropriate.