

CAS

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 30, 2015

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate, the Administration or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Kevin Smith (Chair), Craig Bantz, Roberta Kehne, Kent Kirkby, Jeffrey Lindgren, Luke Odenthal, Maria Sera, Susan Staats, Ryan Bean

GUESTS: None

OTHERS: Toni Pangborn, support manager, OCM

REGRETS: Dennis Becker, Mingze Sun, Jeremy Todd,

ABSENT: Chris Dovolis, Bill O'Neil, Harshavardhan Sanekommu, Thomas Wolfe

[In these minutes: Report from the Committee Chairs' Meeting; Report from the March SCEP meeting]

1. REPORT FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS' MEETING

Professor Smith called the meeting to order and asked for introductions. He asked Professor Sera to inform members about the Committee Chairs' Meeting, which she attended as the CAS representative in his stead. The Committee Chairs' Meeting takes place once each semester and includes the chairs of the Senate Committees. Professor Sera noted that many of the committees mentioned the need for student issues to have a clear process within the governance system. They discussed that communication overall is an issue, as it is hard to reach people through email because they are often ignored or deleted.

2. REPORT FROM THE MARCH EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (SCEP) MEETING

Professor Smith attended the March meeting of SCEP and they discussed the Learning Space Master Plan proposal. He said that SCEP members recommended that the proposal be sent through SCEP and on to the Faculty Consultative Committee, as a process for consultation and moving it forward. Professor Smith commented that he has seen growing interest from the

University community in being challenged to think boldly about the future of the University, and learning spaces are a part of that vision. He believes that spaces should be aligned with the activities that are being used in teaching, so flexibility and capacity are both concerns.

Professor Staats asked if OCM has a policy connecting class size to the room size. She has observed that there are special entities that have smaller classes in larger rooms and she has a colleague that would be interested in submitting a request for a larger room. Toni Pangborn, support manager, OCM, commented that there are agreements, but they are not in perpetuity. Mr. Bantz explained that, in his experience, these agreements are often the result of a transfer of departmental space to the general classroom pool; it is not the enactment of policy. There is a review at the end of the priority agreement to determine if the arrangement needs to continue. Ms. Pangborn said that a request could be submitted to Mr. Todd, but there will not be much flexibility while Tate Lab is under construction.

Professor Smith commented that departmental space is not necessarily being used in the most effective way. Mr. Bantz added that almost 30% of available space is controlled by departments. He explained that there is an incentive to have departmental spaces managed by OCM, but many do not realize the cost savings that is available. Ms. Pangborn explained that when OCM was formed, they expected departments to see the cost savings as an incentive to have underutilized spaces added to the centrally managed pool. However, it is unfortunately rare for a department to approach OCM with a space. Members agreed that it would be helpful to have an estimate of how much space is still being managed by departments.

In closing, Professor Smith asked what the committee would like for him to bring to SCEP and they provided the following responses:

- Information related to a task force being formed by Capital Planning and Project Management (CPPM). Jeremy Todd, director, OCM, will serve on this task force.

Professor Smith asked members if they would like to hold the final meeting of the academic year in a different location as a way to view different learning spaces. A member mentioned they were interested in viewing a flipped classroom. Mr. Bantz said that he could facilitate a viewing of a flipped class if members are interested.

In closing, Professor Smith emphasized that converting space is not just about renovations or building new spaces, it is about making learning more engaging. Hearing no further business, Professor Smith adjourned the meeting.

Jeannine Rich
University Senate Office