

Senate Committee on Finance and Planning (SCFP)
November 12, 2019
Minutes of the Meeting

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.

[**In these minutes:** Campus Safety Issues; Meal Plan/ Campus Dining; M Health Fairview and Shriners Hospital]

PRESENT: Frank Gigler (chair), Micheal Berthelsen, Brian Burnett, Harrison Frisk, Tony Fussy, Robert Goldstein, Jennifer Gunn, Stephanie Heim, Jill Merriam, James Pankow, Erik van Kuijk, Traci Wollums, Ben Yawakie

REGRETS: Michael Korth, Carl Rosen, Roderick Squires

ABSENT: Lisa Babbs, Elizabeth Davis, Aleksander Holleran, Laura Kalambokidis, Lincoln Kallsen, Paul Olin, ZiRui Su, Julie Tonneson, Sashank Varma, Mike Volna

GUESTS: Ross Allanson, Director, Parking and Transportation Services, James Farnsworth, former campus life committee director (2017-18), Minnesota Student Association; Jael Kerandi, vice president, Minnesota Student Association; Jakub Tolar, Dean of Medical School, Vice President for Clinical Affairs

OTHERS: Paige Rohman

Chair Frank Gigler welcomed the committee and the members introduced themselves.

1. Campus Safety Issues

Mike Berthelsen, vice president, University Services, and Ross Allanson, Director, Parking and Transportation Services, joined the committee to discuss campus safety issues, including e-scooters and security in the health sciences buildings.

Allanson explained that e-scooters became fixtures on the Twin Cities campus in the 2017-18 academic year. He told members that the University entered into agreements with a few e-scooter vendors at that time so that the institution had some authority over their operations. Berthelsen noted that the University is allowing the same companies on campus that the City of Minneapolis allows, knowing that there is a good chance the e-scooters allowed in Minneapolis will end up on campus.

Allanson told members that a primary issue with the e-scooters, which has resulted in legal action against the City of Minneapolis by people with disabilities, is that the scooters can be parked anywhere, including obstructive spaces such as the the middle of the sidewalk. Other issues that Allanson noted are e-scooter riders riding on sidewalks, and e-scooter riders riding the

wrong way on one way streets or in bike lanes. To combat some of these issues, the e-scooter vendors are using in-app notifications to educate riders, and they are actively looking for e-scooter issues in the community, including finding e-scooters that are not appropriately parked.

Berthelsen told members that the e-scooters will be removed from campus for the season on November 30.

Committee members asked if the institution collects revenue for the e-scooters, and Allanson explained that the institution receives 20 dollars per month, per e-scooter, and the University expects to collect roughly \$20K this fiscal year from the e-scooter agreements. He said that Parking and Transportation Services projects that there will be about 200K rides on the e-scooters on campus this year, and the City of Minneapolis is anticipating 1 million rides in the city limits. He expressed that the e-scooters are a great “last mile” transportation option, which is a benefit to keeping them on campus, and the University’s position is that the e-scooters are going to show up on campus regardless of whether there is an agreement in place with the vendors, but at least with an agreement, the institution can manage or influence the use of e-scooters over time.

Berthelsen then changed the topic to building security concerns. He explained that University buildings are designed to be as open and accessible as possible, but over the past year, and particularly in the colder months, there has been an increase in security issues in some of the health sciences buildings with individuals entering or loitering in buildings that do not have purpose to be there. To deal with these issues, Berthelsen said, there have been adjustments to building hours, and increased security staff. He explained that a health sciences security committee was also formed to develop new ideas and initiatives to deal with the safety concerns. Those ideas have been presented to the deans over the fall semester. Berthelsen shared the draft [Health Sciences Building Access Improvement](#) plan with the committee, but cautioned that the draft is a work in progress, and details and operating procedures will be adjusted when necessary after implementation. Berthelsen told members that the plan will be communicated to the University community, and the changes will be implemented beginning on Monday, December 2.

Brian Burnett suggested that the plan may seem antithetical for a college campus, but explained that there have been reports of property damage and assault in the buildings, and the deans are concerned that the security issues will impede their ability to attract students to the University, which will directly impact the mission. He projected that the new plans will take time to work out because they are a new way of doing business, especially in buildings that have patients entering and exiting.

Erik van Kuijk told members that his eye clinic has had equipment damaged and computers stolen in the evening. He said that keys have also been stolen from pharmacy cabinets. As a result of these incidents, the main lobby of the clinic has been locked down. He told members that it is inconvenient, but necessary.

Tony Fussy commented that a new requirement that everyone wear badges to enter the buildings seems a little excessive, or unrealistic. Berthelsen said that it would be too difficult to decide who would need to wear badges and who would not, which is why the draft plan requires everyone entering the buildings to be wearing their badge.

Berthelsen told members that the draft plan addresses the health sciences buildings, and noted that all campus buildings will likely be audited for potential new safety measures.

Members discussed when Safe U notifications are sent to the University community. Berthelsen told members that the notifications are sent when there is an on-going threat to the campus community, therefore, if a person that committed a crime is caught, it is not a threat. Property damage is also not a threat, he said.

Stephanie Heim commented that if the loitering is a homelessness issue, then the draft plan will not address the continued problem. She asked if the University has looked for ways to address the homelessness concerns. Burnett explained that the University has a contract with the [St. Stephen's shelter](#) and the University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD) officers carry the contact information for the shelter so they can provide those resources. Frequent trespassers are often put in Hennepin County Jail, Burnett said. He stressed that the institution owes it to the broader University community to have a safe campus environment. Heim suggested deploying social workers in addition to staffing security desks with officers, to help with larger underlying issues.

2. Meal Plan/ Campus Dining

Gigler introduced the next agenda item, explaining that the Minnesota Student Association (MSA) attended the November Senate Consultative Committee (SCC) meeting to present a resolution requesting that a student be appointed to the UMTC Future Campus Dining Task Force Executive Committee. Gigler told members that he serves on the SCC, and invited MSA to the SCFP meeting to present the resolution.

James Farnsworth, former campus life committee director (2017-18), MSA, and Jael Kerandi, vice president, MSA, introduced themselves and presented slides titled [Campus Dining](#), which included information on MSA advocacy work around campus dining, survey results from students about the campus dining services, an explanation of the current Aramark contract, specific student concerns with the service, and a proposal for future campus dining planning. Farnsworth told members that the Board of Regents recently approved a two year contract extension with Aramark, and stakeholders are now looking at future dining options, including establishing a self-operating dining service.

Farnsworth showed members the organizational structure of the UMTC Future Campus Dining Task Force, which was established to make a recommendation to the President about future campus dining operations. He explained that dining services are a mandatory expenditure for first year students living in residence halls, and campus dining impacts a significant number of students, and therefore MSA believes that there should be student representation on the executive committee, which will be the committee that makes the final recommendation to the President.

Committee members discussed the possibility of a price increase for students if campus dining operations were to change, and how that would impact the students' accessibility to campus dining options. Kerandi told members that she believes that it would be up to the Board of Regents to make decisions on food pricing based on the institution's values about the student experience on campus and, if necessary, to find ways to make a potential price increase accessible for students to afford. She opined that it should not be up to the students to decide on a pricing model, but rather, it is up to student governance to make recommendations about what they think is necessary for students to be successful on campus. Therefore, MSA is focused on advocating for what students need in order to be on campus, with the expectation that the institution will determine pricing. Farnsworth added that a survey is currently being conducted that directly asks students whether they would be willing to pay a higher price for better quality food, and those results will help answer the question, which has also been brought up by Board of Regents members during the Aramark contract extension discussions.

Committee members discussed how aspects of campus dining, including food source, quality and pricing would be prioritized in the RFP. Berthelsen told members that the task force is still in the review phase of the project, so priorities have not been established.

3. M Health Fairview and Shriners Hospital

Gigler then introduced Jakub Tolar, Dean of Medical School, Vice President for Clinical Affairs, and told members that Tolar was invited to provide an update on the Fairview partnership and to share his vision for the Brain Health Institute that will be housed at the Shriners Hospital.

Tolar talked about the mission of the Medical School, including the goals of the Joint Clinical Enterprise (JCE), newly named M Health Fairview. M Health Fairview has set a goal to rank in the top ten academic health systems within the next decade, he reported, and to accomplish this, the JCE will need to grow. He described his plans for growth, starting by ensuring the right teams and the right equipment are in place, and then scaling up the capacity of the organization to drive down costs and improve the patient experience. He described finding ways to reduce waste in medicine, including having standard operating procedures, limiting errors in judgement, limiting variation in care, and providing preventative care. Tolar told members that he is positioning the healthcare enterprise with his teams and his chairs to focus on those things, and he expects that growth will be tied to the changes.

Tolar also described a goal setting exercise that he conducted with the medical school chairs a few years ago wherein they discussed efficiencies in their operations and decided collectively to focus research in three areas: neuroscience, bioengineering, and cancer, as those are already strengths for this University.

Tolar also covered the financial health of M Physicians, formerly named University of Minnesota Physicians (UMP), which is described on Tolar's slides as the clinical practice, and he noted is an independent corporation. He reported that the net income is forecasting dramatic increases in the FY19 and FY20 budgets. Tolar also summarized the components of Master

Professional Services Agreement with Fairview, including the services that will be provided by M Physicians.

Tolar then introduced the mission for the Institute for Child and Adolescent Brain Health by first sharing with members that for the first time since 1915, the life expectancy of average Americans has gone down. He opined that this is due to what he called “disorders of despair” such as depression, suicide and addiction. He told members that people with mental health diagnoses are expected to live 25 years less than those who do not have a similar diagnosis, and he said that the University’s Chair in Psychiatry and Department Head of Psychiatry, Professor Sophia Vinogradov, M.D., has told him that the intensity of these psychoses is increasing, and no one knows why. This issue, coupled with a request from the legislature for the University to focus research on addiction, was the impetus for the new institute. The institute, he explained, will focus on interventional psychiatry, and will monitor brain connections in children and adolescents with a specific focus on retraining the brain to prevent disorders of despair. He told members that the institute will be in the Shriners Hospital, which was recently purchased by the University. Tolar projected that the institute will elevate the reputation of the University.

Members asked how the new institute will fit in with existing interdisciplinary centers such as the [Institute on Community Intgration \(ICI\)](#) and the [Center for Neurobehavioral Development](#). Tolar explained that the new institute will likely combine many existing centers, and they will physically move to the new location. He told members that the first floor of the institute will be clinical, the second floor will be research, and there will be roughly 350 faculty members in the new facility.

With no further business, Gigler adjourned the meeting.

Bobbie Erichsen
University Senate Office