

Meeting Notes

Integrated Planning Committee Meeting

February 15, 2018

1:00 – 2:00pm

A-2029

Attendance:

Dr. Noreen Golfman, Provost & VP (Academic) (Chair)
Dr. Donna Cox-Hardy, Social Work
Dr. Ian Sutherland, Music
Dr. Donald McKay, Medicine
Jillian Kavanagh, Marine Institute
Renata Lang, MUNSU
Rizza Umali, GSU
Keith Matthews, Academic Budgets
Paul Chancey, CIAP
Réanne Kinsella, CIAP

Unable to attend:

Dr. Aimée Surprenant, Graduate Studies
Dr. James Feehan, Humanities & Social Science
Dr. Laura Robinson, Arts & Social Science, Grenfell
Lori Pike, Budget Office

1. Review of meeting notes from January 24, 2018

The meeting notes from January 24, 2018 were reviewed and accepted by the committee.

2. Summary of Consultation Process and Survey

Members of the working group met to begin putting together a draft of a *What We Heard* document outlining the key principles and themes identified during the consultation process. Ms. Kinsella presented a summary of the input received. Between 650 and 700 individuals from the university community attended the consultation sessions held at the St. John's campus, the Marine Institute, and the Grenfell campus. Additionally, 214 individuals provided input through the online feedback form.

The key principles that emerged included: academic excellence, comprehensiveness, student experience, accessibility, serving the needs of the people of the province, transparency, unity, and respect. The key themes identified were as follows:

1. Administration has grown with increased complexity
2. Student experience should be positive and rewarding
3. Balancing tuition rates and accessibility
4. Need for infrastructure renewal
5. Supporting our faculty and staff
6. Memorial's reputation is at risk
7. Dependence on government funding

Some clarifications and additions were suggested. However, committee members felt that the summary of the consultation process presented an accurate account of the input provided by the university community.

For the most part, there was consistency with regard to the views and recommendations from respondents. Only about 10% of comments were unique, diverging or conflicting. The committee remarked that it is important to recognize the commonalities expressed among the groups consulted.

Overall, it was noted that almost all groups indicated the need to work together as a united front in order to move forward; however there remains some “finger pointing” and some units taking a defensive stance. The consultation process has been a step in the right direction as now more than 600 people are more aware of the current fiscal situation and the issues currently faced by the university. However, it appeared to some that many participants still do not recognize the seriousness of the fiscal situation and the enormity of the problem the university is facing.

3. Discussion of Report Outline

An outline is also being prepared for the budget report. It was noted that the development of the recommendations will take some time, as well as ongoing consultation with IPC. Some recommendations that were heard in the consultation process will also require further analysis and investigation.

4. Other Business

No other business was raised. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.