

## University Budget Advisory Committee

### Minutes

Sept. 22, 2023

Attending: Andrew (Drew) Delaney (chair), Alexis Rutt, Brad Hansen, Dan Hubbard, David Fleming, Martina Pugh (student representative), Robert (Bob) Rycroft (co-secretary), Sandrine Sutphin, Scott Gerseny (co-secretary), Smita Jain Oxford, Paul, Griggs, Brian Gorham (Facilities Services)

Unable to Attend: Patrick Catullo (*ex-officio*)

- The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm
- Welcome and introductions of each member and Brian Gorham of Facilities Services
- Brian indicated he has been here about 1 year
- Brian is currently directing a Facility Condition Assessment for each campus building. It looks at building age and utilization of services. We are an “old” campus. It will eventually lead to a budget plan, but he does not have any data to share at the current time.
- Custis and Apartment building 3 are currently offline for maintenance
- UMW receives \$2 million for the State every two years year for maintenance of academic and administrative buildings. We need money from other sources for Residence halls and auxiliary building upkeep.
- Residence halls need significant maintenance. Financial gaps are more serious for residence halls and auxiliary buildings. But there are still some gaps in academic buildings.
- We have spent \$1.5 million on the Jepson air conditioner and renovating Jepson 100 lecture hall
- We need to be on the lookout for building problems
- 60 – 75-day backup on maintenance projects.
- Big problem that Facilities Services faces is lack of staff. We are down 28% in housekeeping and grounds. Brian hopes to replace some of the missing staff over the next 5 – 6 years, but UMW has had trouble recruiting across all the positions. Converting HVAC positions to IT positions would help and could be justified because of the high-tech nature of HVAC these days
- Right size operating budgets for departments. We made cuts during the pandemic period but now we should return to where we were.
- Planned maintenance
- Smita asked whether the lighting had been changed in Woodard. Brian did not know but would get back to her
- There was some discussion about the “color” and “warmth” of the lighting. Lights typically run from 2500 to 7500 Kelvin. 4000 – 4500 is optimal for learning. “Tunable for

color” systems are expensive. We don’t have the cables installed to use that technology. We are about 15 years behind in lighting technology. Smita wanted to know if individual classrooms would be “tuned.” We do not have enough electricians to tune the lights in every classroom. It is a low priority issue.

- Dan asked whether cuts could be made to the Facilities budget? Brian said no. The reduction in staff along with greater use of contract resources has led to a deterioration of services. Staff restoration is his Number 1 priority
- Brian left at 12:30 pm
- Next week Melissa Yakabouski from Admissions and Amy Jessee from Communications would be the guests. Some of our meetings will have two guests. This means we do not have guests for each of our meetings. Drew called for suggestions for more guests.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Rycroft

Co-Secretary