

Longwood University Planning Council
Minutes
January 29, 2015

Present:	President Taylor Reveley, IV	Jeannine Perry
	Ken Copeland	Jennifer Apperson
	Charles White	Courtney Hodges
	Joanna Morrison	Dick Bratcher
	Victoria Kindon	Jeff Halliday
	Ken Perkins	Troy Austin
	Tim Pierson	Matt McGregor
	Paul Barrett	Mark Kendrick
	Paul Chapman	Tracy Nelson
	Suzy Palmer	Jennifer Green

Absent: Lissa Power-deFur

Call to Order

The University Planning Council (UPC) met on January 29, 2015 at 3:00 PM in Bedford Hall. Ken Copeland, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all members. Jeff Halliday, Communications Professor, was recognized as the newest member to the UPC. The meeting was condensed to allow UPC members the opportunity to attend the 3:30 PM Provost presentation.

Discussion Regarding Potential Committee Structure for the UPC

President Reveley addressed the Council members and noted that he, Ken Copeland, and Charles White had recently met to explore the possibility of expanding the current University Planning Council into the UPC 2.0 for other issues that could be brought under the “umbrella” of the UPC. The extension, of the current committee, would be developed to discuss and review other issues that the University faces including budget, diversity, space planning, just to name a few. The current Council would remain as a standing body to address issues University wide. President Reveley feels the new UPC 2.0 has good potential and he would like to meet with a subset group consisting of Ken Copeland, Charles White, Dick Bratcher, Troy Austin, Jennifer Apperson, Joanna Morrison, and Matt McGregor two to three times over lunch and report back to the University Planning Council to detail what the new UPC 2.0 model would look like.

Update on Present State of the Budget

Ken noted that several items to be cognizant of include the scrutiny that Longwood University and other universities are currently under due to legislation sponsored by Delegate Kirk Cox that has to do with caps on fees pertinent to intercollegiate athletics. The legislation has impact on all

schools that do not play football and are held at a percentage cap of how much of the total athletic revenue can be derived from the student fee. We need to pay close attention to the auxiliary side and whatever increase may be recommended regarding the comprehensive fee. Ken noted that the Times Dispatch announced that a potential one percent state wide salary increase is being considered for state employees. We will wait for more details to see what impact this will have on Longwood's budget and how we cover the non-general portion. This could provide more pressure on the comp fee. When the Governor announced his budget in December, there were no additional cuts recommended for higher education. Longwood gained a few more dollars in the Governor's budget for financial aid, operation and maintenance and maintenance reserves. No direct cuts are seen at this time. Close attention is being paid to legislation that would change the way universities can currently "piggyback" a contract already held by another college or university. DGS could charge surcharges if approved and they would handle all collaborative contracting. Currently, DGS does not get a fee if we collaboratively contract with other universities. We currently piggyback with other universities and it allows us to not have to deal with RFP's, solicitations, and extra manpower.

There is anticipation that the General Assembly will be completed in February and will have a State budget to provide a firm platform for Longwood to build its budget. Charles noted that the original five percent spending reduction in FY 2015 and seven percent in FY 2016 for all state schools was reduced to 2.2 percent or \$542,000 achieved through unfilled positions and the elimination of several positions. The top four or five priorities from last year's budget requests were funded and good progress was made. The University will continue in its budget development exercise and should have a more comprehensive picture the next time the Council meets.

President Reveley noted that it is crucial to keep in mind that the State is not the financial driver as it has been in the past. The State still has to formally appropriate all of the money and our budget is still dependent on the vote from the General Assembly as to what Longwood receives. President Reveley shared good news that enrollment has continued to move in a very positive direction and retentions are good. The current state of the University is steady.

When asked, staff should be made aware that new budget requests are not yet due as healthcare costs and other burdens that the University will have to pay first, need to be better understood and how they equate in terms of revenue and tuition.

Tim Pierson offered an update regarding the Norovirus. Hampden-Sydney has postponed classes for the next few days and an athletic game has been cancelled. Longwood is attempting to stay a step ahead of the virus and Lucy Carter Smith will be holding meetings to keep staff apprised of the situation. Tim advised that a notice will be going out to faculty/staff reminding them to take extra precautions and that there is no reason for panic at Longwood.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.