University Resources Policy Committee
Annual Report for 2015-2016 Academic Year

The URPC shall be concerned with, but not limited to, consideration of: planning optimal utilization of the physical facilities of the University, including buildings, the library, scientific and equipment and educational aids; studies of staff needs, utilization, and planning; interdepartmental cooperation for improved facilities and staff utilization; and nonacademic planning, including architecture, landscaping, parking, and traffic.

URPC met once a month for the 2015-2016 academic year, 7 meetings in all. The meetings had a 50% attendance rate, roughly 8 out of 16 URPC members participated at each meeting. The URPC meetings also had a significant number of guests, including representatives from the 7 subcommittees that report to URPC and representatives from Purdue Physical Facilities. There were no resolutions that passed from the URPC and introduced to the full University Senate, but a number of topics were discussed that include:


   Michael Cline            Advisor - Vice President for Physical Facilities
   Beth McCuskey           Advisor - Vice President for Housing and Student Services
   Jo Ann Banks             Botany and Plant Pathology
   Stephen Byrn             Industrial and Physical Pharmacy
   Elena Coda               Languages and Cultures
   Clifford Fisher          Management
   Alan Friedman            Biological Sciences
   William Hutzel (Chair)   Mechanical Engineering Technology
   Monika Ivantysynova      Agricultural and Biological Engineering
   Richard Johnson-Sheehan  English
   Sophie Lelièvre          Basic Medical Sciences
   Douglas Nelson           Hospital and Tourism Management
   Voicu Popescu            Computer Science
   Joseph Sinfield          Civil Engineering
   William Sullivan         Executive VP for Business and Finance
   Eric Scott               PSG Appointment
   Mackenzie McDonald      PSG Appointment
   Christopher Kulesza      PGSG Appointment

2. Subcommittee Work

   a. Architectural and Landscape Design & Planning: Daphene Koch
      The lines of communication between faculty and staff were disrupted by a re-organization within Physical Facilities that eliminated the Purdue Office of the Architect. The opportunity for faculty input was re-instituted with the new Office of Asset Management.

   b. Library Committee: Jan Olek – no activity reported
c. Parking & Traffic: Andrew Hirsch

Pay parking in some Purdue parking garages was instituted for home football games. This was not a popular decision among faculty and staff who already pay for parking privileges. The staff responsible for parking management insisted that 1) parking permits do not necessarily include weekend parking and 2) alternative free parking is still available on campus during home football games.

d. Staff Appeal Board for Traffic Regulations: Hazar Dib

This subcommittee is fully staffed and handling appeals on an as-needed basis.

e. Sustainability: Jane Yatcilla

A resolution to have Purdue President Mitch Daniels sign the Climate Change Commitment was submitted and discussed. The resolution was endorsed by the Sustainability Sub-Committee but was not passed by URPC. The concern at URPC was the open-ended nature of the Climate Change Commitment in terms of cost and specific actions required. A compromise measure is moving forward in that Physical Facilities has agreed to update its own university-wide Sustainability Plan in a comprehensive way, with significant input from faculty, staff, and students.

f. Budget Interpretation, Evaluation, and Review: Larry DeBoer

This group develops its own comprehensive analysis of the Purdue budget in a way that provides insight into the implications of budgetary decisions. The work of this committee was hindered this year by a change to Purdue’s accounting procedures that make data collection more difficult.

g. Visual Arts

This committee is actively involved in the selection, purchase, and installation of art work on campus. Their poster collection was recently transferred to oversight by the Purdue Graduate Student Council. A detailed report is attached

3. Summary of Presentations to the URPC Committee

a. Utility Scale Solar at Purdue – student presentation

April presentation discussed opportunities for cost effective investment in solar electricity

b. State Street Project Update – Don Petersen, Director for Energy & Construction

March presentation gave an overview of the upgrades planned for State Street

c. COEUS Replacement – Ken Sandel, Director of Sponsored Programs

February presentation highlighted plans to replace the web-based tool for managing research projects

d. Space Management – Carol Horan, Registrar and Brad Bowen, Asset Management

February presentation discussed Physical Facilities management of campus space

e. Sustainability Plan – Michael Gulich

February presentation presented a strategy for updating Purdue’s sustainability plan

4. Professor Alan Friedman, Biology, was elected Committee Chair for 2016-2017