Faculty Senate Building and Grounds Committee

End-of-Year Report, 2017-2018

Meetings

To date, the committee met five times over the course of the academic year on October 13, 2017, November 17, 2017, December 18, 2018, January 8, 2018, March 30, 2018, and April 6, 2018. One more meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2018.

Real Estate Project

The committee undertook a project to obtain information on all real estate holdings and leases for the University in order to assist the administration in identifying ways to save money in order to help with the ongoing budget crisis. Data on the properties and spaces were gathered and reviewed. There were many questions about the off-campus properties, in particular the ones owned by the non-profit entity known as Double Bowler. The committee continues to gather more information about these properties and is working on a set of recommendations. This project will continue over the summer and into the next academic year.

Athletic Fields Usage

Over the past year, the committee has received repeated inquiries about the usage of the athletic fields in the back of the University. Specifically, questions have been raised about the stadium lights being turned on when no one is present on the fields and when there is a cloud(s) in the sky during daylight hours. Outside groups have been observed playing on the fields (e.g. Fairborn High School) at night-time hours with the stadium lights turned on. The committee is investigating these issues and is working on a set of recommendations. This investigation will continue over the summer and into the next academic year.

Parking Appeals Subcommittee

The Parking Appeals subcommittee met three times over the course of the academic year on December 4, 2017, February 26, 2018, and March 12, 2018. A total of 432 appeals were reviewed; 384 (89%) were denied and 48 (11%) were approved. These totals represent a 20% increase in the overall number of appeals and a 56% decrease in the number of appeals approved as compared to the previous year. The committee made the following recommendations to the Parking Department: 1) repaint yellow and white lines in areas where the lines have faded to clarify the student vs. faculty parking spaces; 2) send out communications before spring break to clarify the rules for parking during this time; 3) add signage to the visitor parking lots to indicate that parking is not allowed for students, staff, or faculty members; and 4) instruct workers at the visitor booth to inquire whether the person requesting the visitor permit is a student, staff, or faculty member in order to clarify the rules for visitor parking.

Bike Share Program

A presentation was made by Eric Corbitt at the March 30, 2018 meeting about a potential Bike Share Program for the campus. Overall, the possibility to have the program here on campus was well received. There were concerns about the cybersecurity with regard to using a Wright State email address to register and about where the bicycles will be parked (or left) around campus. One of our members checked with the CaTS Chief Security Officer, who was of the opinion that registering with a Wright State email account is not a security risk. Regarding the locations of bicycles, "balancers" will be hired by the company to redistribute bicycles. Mr. Corbitt acknowledged that educating users about where to park the bicycles will be important for a successful implementation of the program.