



# Facilities and Services

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

5:00 p.m. VU 567

- Members:** Chelsea Ghant, (AS VP for Business and Operations, Chair); Emma Palumbo (Student Representative, Viking Union); Camilla Paine (Student Representative, Recycle Center); Daniel Billick (Student Representative, Publicity Center); Mirabelle Blech (DisAbility Outreach Center Coordinator); Andrew McKinley (Student Representative at Large)
- Advisor:** Greg McBride (Viking Union Director of Facilities); Eric Alexander (Assistant Dean of Student Engagement/Director of Viking Union Facilities)
- Secretary:** Emma J. Opsal (AS Board Assistant for Internal Committees)
- Missing:** Daniel Cole Blattenberg (Student Representative, Lakewood); Ian Fisk (Student Representative, Outdoor Center)

*Ghant called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.*

## I. Check Ins

The council shared their preferred pronouns, the highlights of their spring break, and answered questions written on a ball.

## II. VU Fees, Rates and 2016 Budget

McBride was present to discuss the proposed budget for the following year. He discussed why he had brought it before the council, stating that the council should be informed of the ways student fees were being spent, and how they would increase for the following year. This budget, he further explained, would later be taken to the Board of Trustees for a decision. He gave a brief overview of the history and changes made to the VU. He stated there would be an increase in the building fees. He stated much of the funding for the running of the building came from the Building fee, but also from the Services and Activities fee paid by students. He stated that although the funds that came in through room rentals and other expenditures from S&A fee programs, the VU should not rely on the funds, especially as it was consistently an over 3 million dollar operation. He stated that expenditures and revenue had also changed since the last fee increase, giving the self-sustaining information desk as an example. He explained that purchases from the desk were down, therefore they had had to cut back on buying items to sell there in order to continue paying the employees there. He listed off other items the VU paid for, including staff, utilities, maintenance, custodial supplies, insurance, and uniforms. He further stated merchandising was declining. He stated there would also be a cost of living increase for the full time staff members, which included some AS advisors. He also stated there had not been any correction for student employee wages, therefore there was a correction needed there as well. He stated that since these were employees working for the students, the fees would be returning to the students in this form. McBride stated he was unsure of the exact increase that would

be added to the budget, but gave an estimate of 129,000. This would include the salary increases, as well as a new position. He stated per student, this increase would be approximately \$2.50. It had been increased in fall of 2011 to fill the reserve needed to complete projects such as re-carpeting rooms and replacing furniture. He also stated there would be an increase in the fees paid by WWU departments from outside the building to use the facilities. There would also be an increase in the rental rates for Lakewood watercraft, by \$3. Additionally, the length of the rentals would decrease from all day to 4 hours. The amount for quarterly use would also increase. This change would allow for up to \$16,000 in additional revenue. And revenue over the cost of expenditures would be added to the reserves. The reserves were used for the repayment of bonds from the last remodel in 199, as well as for emergencies. McBride also stated some of the funds would go towards a remodel and reprogramming of the VU. He stated there would be a developed plan for the future use of the building. He also stated there was substantially less room on campus for activities than many schools of the same size, and it was hoped by those in the remodel that they would be able to remedy this issue. He stated it was very important the team working towards the remodel would work to best serve students, whether it be another building for students, or a substantial change to the VU. He stated it was also important to work to meet the needs of students. He stated those working to improve the facility would work with those in charge of the master plan of the University to figure out ways to fulfil the needs of the students. It was asked who would be contributing dollars for such projects. McBride stated the University was contributing, and working to gain bonds to fund such projects. He further stated the University was also encouraging a move to engaging and welcoming spaces. He stated also stated that on the commercial level, like the VU, furnishings such as furniture and carpets was expensive, therefore a longterm plan for the building was also needed to sustain it until a renovation in the future. McBride stated there was a proposed timeline to complete the planning in Spring 2016, and begin construction in Summer 2016. McBride stated the reason he had brought this budget and these plans to the council was for a vote of affirmation. He stated the final approval would come from the Board of Trustees, once the proposal was looked over by the council and thought to make sense. McBride asked for questions, stating he had not gone into great depths in his presentation, but every dollar was accounted for in this general overview. McKinley asked how much of the renovation would come from the school. McBride stated that the University had committed one million dollars, but planning would show what the total amount for the project would be. He further explained that they had yet to figure out how the building would look, as they were in the beginning stages of the design process. He stated they were informally consulting with architects, as there was an obvious issue of space for the building, and the confines could prove to be challenging. He also explained the design process would take into consideration the needs of the offices and the look of the building would follow the function of the building. He gave an example of the Club Hub needing to be next to an arts and crafts space, but the ESC would also possibly want to be next to such a space. He stated there would be heavy consideration of the needs of the different groups using the building before coming up with any plans. He stated this was still in a conceptual stage, and that the

timeline was still tentative, and there was still much planning and research needed for the implementation of a remodel of the building.

### **III. AS Motor Pool Proposal Update (Tentative)**

This item was not reached in the allotted time.

### **IV. Next Time**

This item was not reached in the allotted time.

### **V. Adjourn**

*The Meeting was adjourned at 5:59p.m.*