

March 6, 2024 CASI Update

Coffee with CASI

- 17 attendees (including CASI board members) + ~8 add'l who stopped but didn't stay for presentation
- Some new faces from first CASI Meet & Greet in the fall
- In the future, all agreed that CASI event should be a standalone event (i.e. no presentations, etc.)

Committee Updates

- Recognition & Retention
 - o All Staff BBQ Tuesday, May 14 – TENTATIVE (waiting for approvals)
 - o Kudos from CASI – in progress (waiting for approvals)
- Communication – no update
- Planning/Tending
 - o Upcoming election process (**NOMINATION FORM SENT VIA EMAIL TO ALL STAFF**)

Jason Jakowski Update

- CCF (Campus Compensation Fund) for faculty/staff/others has been approved and distributed to departments

David Noyce Update

- New building officially approved
- New budget model for campus
 - o General frame of what is being proposed
 - o Look at direct flow of tuition dollars to colleges
 - o Move flow of overhead
 - o 2 committees created: overhead/research dollars and teaching/credit-follows-instruction
 - o Large # of 1st and 2nd year COE students spend time in other colleges (i.e. L&S)
 - o Final form will likely be a hybrid of all above ideas
 - L&S is HUGE! Credit hours taught 10X COE (2/3 of campus budget)
 - COE is underfunded (industry demands engineering grads)
 - Next academic year campus will run TWO sets of books to compare old to new model
 - All engineers need to take Math – don't want COE to start teaching math
 - Accelerated Masters program would not be affected
 - Differential tuition for COE (more expensive to teach engineering)
 - Some on campus want these funds shared -> COE leadership will not consider
- New building-related questions
 - o Timeframe: fall 2024 utility project and removal of 1410 building – work on Engineering Drive
 - o Parking/access to parking (campus master plan shows building in place of Lot 17! Lot 17 is currently basically at capacity with no plans for expansion at this time)
 - o Concern re pedestrian/biker traffic -> definitely part of discussions already
 - o Suggestion to add Park & Ride stop at Engineering

- Bad news: construction of new building will coincide with athletics new building construction (Findorff apparently will use some of their off-site storage areas vs. on campus)
- COE Safety Director role has moved more to a College Safety Role/Overseer vs. Lab Safety
- Kelly asked about whether or not existing spaces will be updated to provide the same new/welcoming feel as the new building -> this has not been part of any discussion
- Remote Work
 - Dean mentioned equity across campus -> what is the benchmark? (Alex commented that same position titles in other campus units have more remote days)
 - Leadership needs to rethink some aspects of the policy -> Construction issues, Job Satisfaction = and look at ALL ROLES
 - PRIORITY: How do we ensure students are getting what they need
 - If # of days is increased -> Discussion of space becomes much more important (i.e. less space for less people on campus, etc.)
 - Sara H. mentioned issues with parking/driving to campus as it is a requirement for some employees (those that live farther away, childcare needs, accessibility needs, etc.)
- OTHER – Hiring/Research initiatives (specifically AI)
 - Nate asked if leadership is talking to current faculty who are already incorporating/doing this type of research
 - David said awareness is needed -> leadership is not as knowledgeable as to who does what, especially related to these new areas
 - # of positions is unknown, but COE goal is to match what campus allocates (i.e. if 10 new positions – COE would match with 10 additional positions)
- OTHER
 - PVL for COE Director of IT
 - CAE was designed for structural support, this person would be tasked toward research as well as compliance
 - Staff to support new positions (all depts should be going through budget process NOW to identify staff needs/roles)
 - Daniel is involved with Workday committee (testing: time off requests/approvals, expense reports, etc. currently)

Next Meeting April 3, 2024