Thursday, October 23rd, 2014
UC 330/31, 1:30-3:00

The meeting began with a couple quick UM Minutes: Dining Services has completed their real-food calculator and an announcement will be made next week. A UM faculty member has been nominated for Regents Professor and is pending Board of Regents approval.

Moving into business, a couple committee members reported on the State of the University address and called attention to several individual items that might be regarded as potential planning priorities or considerations for the committee. This report was followed by a few committee members presenting on the 2014 Annual Institutional Assessment Report. Again, several items stood out as potential planning priorities that the University Planning Committee should consider prioritizing this year.

There were several discussions regarding the strategic issue of Partnering for Student Success and what specifically the issue subsumes, including student advising and incoming students’ recommended secondary-school curriculum. Sustainability also came up as an important topic that needs to be addressed in the coming years if we want to achieve our 2020 strategic goal.

Then the committee passed out a list of potential issues for detailed planning activities. The discussion follows individual items on the list and to what extent they addressed specific actions already in place on campus. The committee decides to combine two items on the list into a single item, and to add the issue of sustainability.

Each committee member was then given four stickers each, and to use the stickers as votes to be cast for their preferred campus priorities. In the front of the room was a large list of the priorities taped to the wall. The committee members then came to the front of the room and voted, using their stickers.

The top four vote getting priorities were:

1- Enhancing advising
2-(tie) Increasing enrollment
2-(tie) Setting a course to become a top tier graduate and research university
4- Identify big picture values to guide resource allocation

A discussion begins regarding the importance of the Planning Committee in repeatedly visiting priorities. Although we may not allocate new resources, we can continue to focus attention to the priorities to assure that progress is being made within our existing infrastructure.

Next up was a brief conversation about a potential purchase made from a reallocation of central funds and how this should be a part of the Planning Committee process going forward.

And with no further business, the meeting is adjourned.