Faculty Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board
Meeting Agenda
Monday, February 3, 2020
1068 9th Street Park
8:00 – 9:00 AM

Attending:

Karey James  CCD Representative – absent
Bret Hann  CCD Representative (chair) – present
Mike Jacobs  MSU Denver Representative – present
Zsuzsa Balogh   MSU Denver Representative – absent
Jaedo Park    CU Denver Representative – absent
Timberley Roane  CU Denver Representative – present

Colleen Walker   CEO, Auraria Higher Education Center – present
Ariel Redell     Staff, Auraria Higher Education Center – present

Agenda Items:

- Updates
  - Colleen shared an update on the weather/snow closures. She noted that the AEC has been trying to make decisions earlier, so that folks have time to leave campus before the weather gets too bad. The snow team has been working on letting folks out in conjunction with class schedules, so it’s easier for people. Bret shared that the morning classes are attended more heavily. The group talked about when the most students are on campus.

  - ABOD update: Colleen told the group that Tara Green from OJB (the Office of James Burnett) was a guest at the last Board meeting. She was there to talk about campus activation and opportunities. Klyde Warran Park was one of their largest and most impactful projects to date. The Board is talking about ways in which to continue to connect the campus as well as activate it. There is development and activity all around the campus, and the Board talked about being part of that, not letting it happen TO campus. Bret noted that Tara talked about some low hanging fruit, like providing more shaded areas; places where people are drawn to hang out. This conversation reinforced the outcome from ABOD retreat, that the Board needs a strategic plan for Auraria. Not just each of the schools, but the Auraria Campus as a whole. Asking the question, how can we think more strategically about the campus in the future? Auraria 3.0. Colleen talked the group through her Board presentation (Auraria 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0). She added
that there are so many new opportunities around us. The presentation was well received at the meeting, and the work ahead is exciting.

The group talked through more points from the Board meeting as well as general Auraria updates.

- Auraria wants to put together an RFQ for a visioning and strategic exercise – will include all stakeholders on campus. Focusing on what the campus could be in the next 20 years. Yet again, the campus has a chance to do something very unique. The group discussed making the King Center a location where all of Denver wants to come and see performances. Timberley asked about hosting traveling art installations on campus, on their way to or from some of the larger venues.

- Meow Wolf is predicting a minimum of 1 million visitors per year. The campus does not want to miss out on possible opportunities. The group talked through some fun ideas including a tri-i welcome center, keeping the Tivoli open longer hours, creating a signature building on campus, thinking more broadly about what is possible. How can the Tiv be a signature piece for the community? How can the campus expand on what is already working and make it even better. Colleen is open to thoughts, feedback, and ideas from FACAB (and any student, faculty or staff members).

- Bret noted that he has heard some concerns about the older buildings on campus becoming non-functional. Timberley noted, where possible, it would be great to generate revenue. She also asked about the possibility of a cultural center; a place where the campus community could celebrate all the different histories and cultures that represent Colorado (and host events, invite outside partners to participate, etc). This particular plot of land has such significant importance; its woven into the fabric of who we are on Auraria. Acknowledging the history of the campus. Massive displacement.

- Timberley added a few suggestions including free evening classes, grouping all evening classes together, so that there appears to be more going on in the evenings. Activate spaces. Creating group sessions or drop in classes. Add AA meetings on campus. Create that true community center feel.

- Mike suggested, since there’s so much history on campus, why don’t we have a historic sites tour of some sort. Acknowledge the history and the culture on campus. Look at low hanging fruit opportunities to get people on campus.

- Timberley and Colleen talked about the Auraria Task Force on displacement and gentrification (tri-i). The group has been talking about land acknowledgements as well as possible walking tours (placards, carvings, etc). Also discussed has been the continuation of the displaced aurarians scholarship.

- CU Denver wrote a grant and got some funds to put on a gentrification and displacement event in the fall. Will be reaching out to the other institutions. St. Cajetan’s and Turnhalle have reserved. They are also working on lining up some speakers – faculty from the schools who have published in this area. Original aurarians and tribal elders will be coming. Two day event. All over campus. October 6 and 7.
• Spring Semester Goals
  o Mike noted some of the faculty complain about the parking by the science building. Specifically, the loading zones. The faculty feel that 20 minutes is not long enough. Departments are able to get a temporary one hour pass from parking that they can share with their team, when needed. However, the faculty do not feel this is a good solution. Timberley said that her department has two of the loading zone passes. It takes a long time to park, get the pass, get back down, etc. The hour passes are used heavily, so faculty can’t check them out in advance or hold on to them for long. This year, Timberley bought an ECOPass, because she has had so much trouble with parking.

  Colleen told the group that AHEC is focused on the Parking Department right now, and improvements are in the works. There are 6,600 spaces and 45,000 people. The parking lot closest to campus (but outside Auraria) is $17 a day. Not making excuses for customer service. FACAB does agree that the cost is cheap in comparison. However, the customer service still needs to be there. Colleen wondered if there was some sort of electronic solution (badges, etc).

  She also wants to focus on better marketing. We could distinguish the campus community from others, and have other folks pay more than the campus community. Timberley noted that just customer service would make a huge difference.

• Other:
  o Timberley reminded the group that the custodial staff needs recognition. They are losing staff members, because of the low pay rate. She often speaks with the custodial team in her building, and they are wonderful. They wish they could have the night shifts back. Ariel explained that the night shifts were cut because so many people were caught sleeping on the job. She said that right now, they have to clean “around” people. Student in the hall, etc. There are so many people on campus when they are working and it makes it harder for them to do their jobs.