Members Present: Bob Barnett, David Gordon, Vahid Lotfi, D. J. Trela and Chris Waters

Guests: Bob Houbeck, Stacy Lee, Keith Moreland and Bill Webb, members of Ad Hoc Committee to Reallocate William S. White Building Space

Gerard called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes from the January 12 meeting ► Since there were guests at this meeting, the minutes were not discussed or approved.

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Reallocate William S. White Building Space ►

Gerard thanked the members of the committee for putting together their report and for meeting with the deans to go over some of their recommendations. Co-chairs Bill and Bob explained that it was their hope to use this draft as a starting point. Bill thought that in general, the issue of space needs to be handled differently than how it has been handled. Bob stated that working on the task force made him realize that we need better data or need to be collecting and analyzing it better. The committee thought about space in general, not just about the William S. White Building. Members of the ad hoc committee hoped to discuss the draft of their recommendations at this meeting, meet with individuals privately if necessary and then make revisions as necessary within the next two weeks. Some thought two weeks was too soon. There was a lengthy discussion about various recommendations in the report.

There was a discussion regarding areas near campus which might be available to the university in a few years as well as some under-utilized area on campus. Also discussed were possible different uses of areas of campus which are on the first floor and have great visibility. The budget, enrollment, tuition and growth rates in various departments were discussed. There was concern with the morale of the faculty in some areas. There was a discussion of the guiding principle that space follows growth. In the future, a University Space Committee may be reconstituted to focus more on academic affairs.

Bill Webb distributed a handout “Capital Outlay Process Reforms” from the State Budget Office, which Bill received from David Lossing. The handout highlights the reforms of Governor Snyder’s Fiscal Year 2013 Executive Budget Recommendation Proposal. Bill wanted to share this information with the deans.
Matters Arising ►

Gerard reminded the deans that enrollment estimates are to be submitted to Dave Barthelmes by tomorrow. The Deans shared their College and School estimates. Gerard asked Vahid to forward the graduate projections to him and the other deans.

Vahid provided an update on his recent visit to Washtenaw Community College. They are very interested in working with us in the areas of Art, BBA, BSN, BAS, BIS, Social Work and Radiation Therapy. Vahid asked deans to send representatives to him and they will work to get the articulation agreements.

Bob Barnett shared that SEHS has been working with Utica College regarding articulation agreements in education.

There was a discussion about having the chair of Faculty Council attend a portion of one Council of Deans meeting a semester and provide an update. This would be effective in the Fall semester of 2012. The chair of Faculty Council used to be a part of the group of Academic Council which no longer meets. The possibility of the deans meeting with Faculty Council was briefly discussed but no decision was reached.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.