Emory University Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2022
3:00-5:00 p.m. | Convocation Hall 208


Excused Absences: Aryeh Stein, Joy McDougall

Unexcused Absences: Richard Castillo, Tom Clark, Dawn Comeau, Rkia Cornell, Curtis Henry, David Howard, Dilek Huseyinzadegan, Ashima Lal, Munish Luthra, Kendall Soulen, Elena Pesavento, John Petros, Florian Pohl, Gustavo Pradilla, Salmon Shomade, Patrick Sullivan, Erin Tarver

I. Welcome and Approval of Consent Agenda, Octavian Ioachimescu, Faculty Council Chair

Dr. Giacomo Negro moved to approve the consent agenda; Dr. Donna Maney seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. Update on Master Planning, Robin Morey, Vice President and Chief Planning Officer of Campus Services, and David Payne, Associate Vice President for Planning and Engagement

VP Morey gave an overview of and updates on several ongoing projects, including the land use plan; graduate student housing initiative; projects in Executive Park, Wesley Woods, and Briarcliff Park; select University and Healthcare Capital Construction projects; and the MARTA and Clifton Corridor Transit Initiative. The land use plan was recently updated and approved in collaboration with the Senate Committee on the Environment. The graduate student housing project is proceeding smoothly, currently working on entitlements and construction permits. Phase I is set to launch in Fall 2024 with 535 beds, and Phase II in Fall 2026 with 500 beds. Still under discussion: Who is the target population (first-come first-serve or targeted demographics); How does Emory allocate beds (admissions calendars or block grants); How long can students stay (One year lease with no renewals or unlimited renewals)? Plans for the Executive Park campus: Opened MSK (Spine and Ortho) in Oct 2021, Multi-Family Residence and Hotel Development will hopefully line up with CHOA campus opening in September 2024. Briarcliff Campus will be developed into a Senior Living Community in partnership with Gallery Living, 450 total units. Demolition of the hospital and restoration of Briarcliff Mansion will not impact Library Service Center Phase II development. R. Randall Rollins Building is scheduled to open in July 2022, and Health Sciences Research Building II in August 2022. Emory Conference Center Hotel renewal will be completed over the summer; use of the Cox 3rd floor ballroom will cease for construction of Student Affinity Spaces and should be done by Fall 2023. This summer, we are widening Haygood Dr to improve traffic flow. Winship Cancer Tower in Midtown will open in Spring 2023. The Psychiatric Hospital will relocate from Wesley Woods to Emory Decatur, and the vacated Wesley Woods facility will be updated and modernized to accommodate the Rehab Hospital which will be moving there from Haygood and Clifton.

AVP Payne briefed the Council on MARTA and transit updates. The Clifton Corridor Transit Initiative aims to extend from Lindbergh station east through the Clifton Corridor. They previously explored going down
Clifton Rd, but currently prioritizing using existing CSX corridor (running through Emory behind CDC) as a shared route for the trains and the new transit, which is the cheaper and less inconvenient option for construction. They are also looking into extending the route to either Avondale Station or Decatur Square station; likely to end up with Avondale. The other discussion is about implementing Light Rail vs. Bus Rapid Transit (buses that have dedicated lanes, trigger the traffic signals when they go through intersections, much cheaper to build since they are not on rails, and are more flexible for future changes in routes).

Questions from the floor:
1) With regards to the Academic Community of Choice priority, the streets surrounding campus, especially Clifton Road, are very car-centric and not at all human-centric. Cars go too fast, and crossing is dangerous. I would be concerned as a parent about letting my child attend this school.
   a. Clifton Road is not under Emory jurisdiction; it is property of the City of Atlanta. But we do need to continue to make investments akin to what we have done in front of Rollins School of Public Health where we take the pedestrian experience further away from the curb and widen the sidewalks. We are also exploring safer options for crossing it, and we are aware of the constriction point at the intersection of Clifton Rd and Haygood Dr.

2) How would this meet President Fenves’ energy efficiency targets? Can we push for LEED Platinum?
   a. This facility will be LEED Gold certified, which is one level higher than our current requirement.

3) Why are we leasing out our land to for-profit businesses when we may need the space for future academic needs?
   a. We considered this during our Master Planning. We have 10M sqft of program space currently, and have capacity to develop another 5M sqft, and this does not include future land acquisitions (e.g., CHOA). We can accommodate projected growth here on main campus, and all the programs we considered at Briarcliff campus will not be good land use considering proximity to Briarcliff Rd, traffic, transportation to and from main campus, as well as the surrounding residential communities.

4) What are the positive impacts and value creation to the academic community of the Briarcliff development?
   a. Opportunity to build elder care and childcare facilities, retail, brain health and research programs. We would also negotiate specific uses of the mansion within the land use agreement: they are considering a clubhouse for the community; we would like to use it for Alumni Advancement and Engagement functions. There might be synergies with the School of Nursing, School of Public Health, School of Medicine for training, as well as continuing education and lifelong teaching for faculty.

III. COACHE Survey Updates, Christa Acampora, Deputy Provost for Academic Affairs, and Tim Holbrook, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Deputy Provost Acampora presented some background on the COACHE survey and how it is related to the One Emory Strategic Framework. COACHE stands for Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education, and is the most comprehensive study of faculty satisfaction in the U.S. It was administered in Feb 2020, with outstanding participation. Findings were analyzed and reported to all 46 academic units.
individually. Next administration of the survey is scheduled for Spring 2023. A few highlights from Emory’s survey so far—Points of pride: quality of and support for colleagues; departmental and divisional leadership; teaching and quality of students; facilities. Opportunities for growth: clarity for tenure and promotion reviews; clinical, research and teaching faculty; diversity, equity, and inclusion; family benefits. More details on survey findings and steering recommendations can be found here. Deputy Provost Acampora also recognized the contributions of Vice Provost Tim Holbrook, who will be stepping down.

Questions from the floor:
  1) Underrepresented groups are too small to be reflected in survey findings?
     a. These groups may be too small to be reported according to data use agreement and presentation standards but are definitely included in interpretation of results. This is to prevent the anonymity of individuals from being compromised.

IV. Chair’s Reflection, Year in Review, Change of Guard, Octavian ‘Tavi’ Ioachimescu, Faculty Council Chair

Dr. Ioachimescu provided an overview of the functions and structure of the Faculty Council, and reviewed the activities conducted and topics discussed throughout the past year.

V. Executive Session: Past, Present, Future of Shared Governance

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.