

Chair's Report
June 2019
Submitted by John Smith

Strategic Planning: The executive committee has been reviewing the drafts submitted by the work groups and, in some cases, we are making revisions in language so the entire plan sounds cohesive. We have also identified opportunities to combine strategies and actions that have common intent/focus. There are several themes that have appeared in two, or all three, of the work group drafts and we are considering how best to present those themes. The drafts your groups submitted clearly demonstrate the passion, dedication, knowledge and vision you and your work group members have for making UofL a great place to Learn, Work, and Invest.

Strip Mall Update: The strip mall housing the former Gray's Bookstore etc. has long been an attractive property. The owners of it recently agreed to sell it to a developer. The University has been in talks with the new owner and currently they are close to committing to build a new, 440 bed, student housing facility. They are also looking to put a major retail outlet on the property. Those specifics cannot be released until details are confirmed but it is a retailer that I think everyone would be excited to have on our campus.

Resident Hall Updates: The new Miller Hall is going to go in the area that is now the visitor parking lot between Miller Hall and the SAC. The current Miller Hall will continue to house students until the new version is completed and will then be torn-down. The new Threlkeld Hall will go on the current footprint of the hall. That will mean our on campus housing will temporarily be reduced during the construction.

Red Book Review: The Red Book review process is gaining traction. We are into section 4 of the book, which is faculty related materials and will soon be getting into section 5 which is specific to staff.

Cannon Update: Everyone should have seen the release that was sent to the entire campus earlier. Cannon agreed to buy out the remaining leases on Xerox equipment that was still in use. This is a good thing for our campus as the Cannon

program averages saving departments almost 2 cents on a black and white copy and 4 cents on a color copy.

Board of Trustees: The next Board of Trustees meeting is June 20. This should be a major meeting as it will include a presentation of our budget. More on that as soon as possible after that meeting.

Shared Governance Meeting: The organizational meeting for the shared governance workgroup is scheduled for June 18. This could be the most important happening in the history of shared governance on our campus. We have never had a framework that spelled out the many questions we have had over the years about what should be vetted, how that should happen and how the communication piece should work. This workgroup came from a conversation between Michael Wade Smith and myself after our last full senate meeting so I am glad to see it actually coming to fruition.

List of Meetings I attended in May to date:

Monday, May 13, Strategic Planning, 8:30 AM, Jefferson Room

Monday, May 13, Board of Trustees Budget Workshop, 10:00 AM, Jefferson Room

Monday, May 13, Staff Senate Regular Meeting, 2:00 Thornton's Academic Center

Tuesday, May 14, Redbook Review, 2:30 PM, Shumaker 228

Monday, May 20, Senate Leadership, 9:00 AM, MITC

Monday, May 20, Free Speech Policy, 1:30, Grawmeyer Hall

Friday, May 24, Dr. Bendapudi, 11:30, Grawmeyer Hall

Monday, May 27, Staff Senate Executive Committee, 3:00 PM, HSC Campus

Tuesday, May 28, Dr. Bendapudi, 2:00 PM, Grawemeyer Hall

Thursday, June 6, Mark Watkins, 1:30 PM, Grawmeyer Hall

Friday, June 7, 1:00, Staff Senate Leadership, MITC