

**Provost's Advisory Council
November 29, 2018 Meeting
8:30-10am, Lynch Center, Fulton 515**

In attendance:

Laura O'Dwyer (Chair)
Sharon Beckman
Joseph Carroll
Thomas Chiles
Chris Constas
Melissa Dilillo
Can Erbil
David Goodman
William Keane

Jonathan Laurence
Margaret Lombe
Allison Marshall
Theresa O'Keefe
Omolayo Ojurongbe
Mariela Paez
Claudia Pouravelis
David Quigley

John Rakestraw
Catherine Read
Patricia Riggan
Ronnie Sadka
Akua Sarr
Billy Soo
Thomas Stegman
Sasha Tomic
Thomas Wall

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- 1. The summary of the November 1, 2018 meeting was approved.** It will be sent to the President's Office. All summaries are posted on the Provost's Office website; members are encouraged to share them with colleagues.
 - 2. Introduction: William Evans, Executive Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police**

Laura O'Dwyer introduced Bill Evans, the new Executive Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police. Prior to joining the University, Bill was the Boston Police Commissioner and has 38 years of experience in law enforcement. Bill joined the BC community in August.

Bill began by talking about his background and philosophy on policing. He grew up in South Boston, and put in 38 years with the Boston Police Department (BPD), rising through the ranks to become the city's police commissioner in 2014. He served 9 years as captain of District D-14 in Allston/Brighton, so he is familiar with the area, the neighbors, and the issues present. He is keenly aware that one bad incident on a college campus can severely impact the relationship with the city and the police, and believes that building good relationships and partnerships is the key to good policing and building trust within the community.

He stated his belief that there are no bad kids; there are just kids who need an opportunity. Throughout his tenure with the BPD, he tried to provide opportunities to lift kids up. He noted that when he was commissioner, his goal was to get kids home safely to their parents at the end of the day, and while a college campus presents different challenges, the goal is still the same.

Bill continued by discussing his observations from his time here so far. He was able to meet a lot of people before the school year started and was on campus by the time move-in started so he had the chance to meet parents and families.

He talked about his concerns on issues surrounding the mental health of the students, adding that the state will be conducting some training in January with the BCPD, but wants to do more with the officers surrounding mental health. He said he also has concerns with student safety

and the increased popularity of ride sharing services such as Uber, particularly with young women. Other concerns include the legalization of marijuana in Massachusetts, drugs, and vaping.

A council member asked about the Uber presence on campus, citing dangerous driving on lower campus at night.

Bill said that he was going to have officers keep a closer eye, and noted that students should be reminded to watch out for each other and be aware of their surroundings.

A council member asked about his observations on the drinking culture on campus and if he thought there should be a different approach. Another council member asked about how he plans to deal with recreational marijuana on campus.

Bill addressed the drinking culture, noting that it happens on all college campuses, but that he has been very impressed with the amount of services available to BC students. Mental health and alcohol incidents are taken very seriously and there is ongoing follow-up. In terms of marijuana use, it is a zero tolerance policy for its use on campus. He suggested the increased popularity of vaping is a problem, as it is not as visible, and it's harder to determine what the students might be doing.

3. Updates on research activities and the Schiller Institute, Tom Chiles, Vice Provost for Research and Academic Planning

David introduced Tom Chiles, Vice Provost for Research and Academic Planning, to talk about the programming and space planning for the Schiller Institute.

Tom began with some background on the work that has been done so far on the Schiller Institute. When he became Vice Provost for Research in 2013, he was tasked with developing a strategic plan around the natural sciences. Over time, the plan developed into integrating the natural sciences with the whole university, linking sciences with the humanities, arts, social sciences, and the professional schools. As new potential academic programs and the mission of the Institute started to take shape, it became clear that there were real limitations to the existing spaces on campus to accommodate the work.

The schematic design (what is going in the building and how to orient it) and design development (the nitty gritty of what each room will look like) phases are now complete, and construction documents and managers are being finalized. Tom added that the further you progress into the design of the building, the window of opportunity for making changes decreases. There will still be opportunities to change design plans, particularly with the interior of the building, and as programs are launched and faculty and expertise are added, adjustments may need to be made.

Key contributors to the design process came from across the campus including the senior leadership, an integrated science faculty planning committee, a University-wide

implementation group, facilities services, capital projects, advancement, and several faculty and staff working groups.

As the planning progressed, a number of space options for the Schiller Institute were considered which included gutting and renovating Cushing or an addition to Higgins. Ultimately, a space was needed that would allow for flexibility and innovation, and to move discoveries into the field and translate those into results that impact society. It became clear that a stand-alone building was needed, and plans took shape for a new building that will be built on the current Cushing Hall site. The new building will allow for a transdisciplinary approach to problem solving, bringing together colleagues across departments and schools, and will include space for:

- Research labs for 22 PIs
- Undergraduate engineering and teaching laboratories
- Space for computer science and a new engineering department
- Maker and Prototype spaces
- The Shea Center for Entrepreneurship
- A large auditorium (replacing the one that will be lost in Cushing)
- 11 Classrooms
- Collaborative space (conference rooms, informal gathering space, ideation space)
- A clean room

The plans are for a transparent space with a good deal of glass, creating a welcoming atmosphere where research and making are on display. It will have the flexibility to switch out spaces, both labs and classrooms, to meet the specific needs of different collaborations. There will be open gathering spaces, write-up walls, and a café, to foster faculty/student ideation and collaboration. It will support new applied science initiatives, complex problems courses, transdisciplinary research, and will serve as a hub for faculty/student design, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

A council member asked if the clean room in Devlin was staying or would be moved to the new building. Another council member asked about how space will be assigned.

Tom responded that the clean room in Devlin is a metal free room, which will remain there. The new clean room in Schiller will replace the clean room currently on the Newton Campus. He noted that space protocols haven't been worked out yet.

4. Provost's Report: David Quigley, Provost and Dean of Faculties

David told the group that the Faculty Annual Reports are open and urged faculty complete their reports, paying special attention to the new questions meant to support the globalization initiative.

He provided a few updates:

- The consensual relations policy has gone through some additional revisions and will be reviewed by the Vice Presidents groups in the new year.
- John Burke and Mike Lochhead will attend the February meeting and provide an update on the University's finances and anticipated pressures for FY20.
- Admissions decisions for early applications will be sent no later than December 18th. There was a spike in early applications due to a change in BC's early action classification.

Billy Soo mentioned that applications are now being accepted for the CTE Teaching Retreat and encouraged interested faculty members to sign up for one of the information sessions to learn more about the retreat and the application process.