Notes

Present: Jessi Steward, Associate Director of the EMU Programs, Becky Lamoureux, Director, Kathryn Thier, Parent Council Chair, Jackie Brown, Parent Council Staff Represented, Michael Thier, Josh Fitzgerald, Victoria Field, Meg Johnson, Amy McCann, Robynn Medew.

Materials available to the Council at the meeting (also, available at the front desk):

Becky’s draft comment for the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC),
The packet of Materials submitted by Moss Street recommending the UO policy revision including;
   Policy Template
   Policy Concept Form
   The Policy Review Guidelines,
The Policy Concept Form on the PAC website
Pages from Adell McMillan’s Book, A Common Ground
A summary of the process of that taken by Moss Street in reviewing the UO policy

Becky described the process for the review of Moss Street Policy and the accompanying documents. The Moss Street Policy was originally an Oregon law (OAR 1981). The OAR stated how care provided through UO Moss Street Children’s Center (MSCC) would be prioritized to ensure student access to this service (including, in detail, the point system to be used). Three years ago, when the UO left the OUS system all OARs regarding the UO became UO policies. The UO established a process for reviewing these policies and created the UO Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) to make recommendations about the policies to the Board of Trustees. This authority has been delegated to the President.

A year and a half ago, Jessi Steward, Becky Lamoureux and Robynn Medew, were tasked with taking the Moss Street policy through the prescribed process. They spent the year reviewing, rewriting and presenting the revised policy to nine different stakeholder groups. The recommendation presented to revise, cites that the UO criteria for a UO
policy, numbers (1) and (3), are met by the proposed Moss Street policy: (1) that the policy impacts the entire UO community, and (3) that the policy is necessary to advance the UO mission. The continued access by students to child care at MSCC contributes to the diversity of the entire UO campus. Without the provision and institutional prioritization of child care for students, the participation of women and underrepresented minorities will be impacted and the UO community at large would suffer. All of the stakeholder groups supported the submission of a proposal for revision and retention of the Moss Street policy at the UO level.

The materials representing this work (Policy Template, Policy Concept Form, and The Policy Review Guidelines) were turned over to Laurie Woodward, with a recommendation that the Moss Street policy be revised and retained. It is not clear what happened with these materials after submission.

The PAC has since listed the Moss Street Policy as recommended for repeal and has listed it as such on their web site. The Policy Concept Form on the PAC website lists the reason for recommendation for repeal being that the law was created for the purpose of allowing the UO to provide care and that it should be a unit level policy. The history of the formation of the original law as archived in Adell McMillan’s book, “A Common Ground”, shares that it was created to clarify the prioritization of student access to care. The policy is now listed on the PAC website in the, “open for public comment” section until May 17th 2017.

The group had a lot of procedural questions. The council deliberated and talked about options... everything from a sit-in with Johnson Hall, to calling out the document gaps, to contacting the PAC members to discussing the policy. Jessi Steward also offered contact with the EMU Board who is a student board that approves the MSCC budget each year and presents the EMU budget to the Student Senate. The EMU Board also voted to approve the recommendation of revision and retention of the Moss Street policy. It was decided that the Parent Council Chair would e-mail Jessi Steward to request to be added to the EMU Board’s agenda on Monday, May 15th.

The Parent Council chose the following next steps:

1. Draft a template letter that parents can use to send for public comment, if they choose. The Parent Council Chair will communicate to parents about her understanding of the OAR and the opportunity to participate in public comment.

2. Begin a conversation with the EMU Board and see what support and next steps can be established in this area.