**Forum Meeting Minutes November 14, 2018**

**Attendees:** Melanie Cashin, Lanhao Tang, Chris Dallager, Karina Sierra, Russ Bauer, Rhemi Abrams-Fuller, Lee Clarke, Aaron Chaput, Kendra Strode, Shawn Galdeen, Blake Held

**Benefits Committee:** Russ is vacating his role at the end of the year, so we will need to secure a replacement. Spread the word to people who might be interested. Get to know more about benefits and what attracts people to the college. Thinking ahead about who we might want to nominate. Commitment includes: Benefits Committee meetings, Investment Committee meetings quarterly. We could do overlap if we want to bring someone in earlier.

**Bookstore Committee:** No report

**Budget Committee:** Approved budget! Board of Trustees meets later this month and have opportunity to approve it. Faculty concerns about budget surpluses not being able to go toward salaries. Surpluses go toward one-time projects and overages in other areas.

**Campus Design:** CSA wants to do outside lighting to address winter darkness/SAD. Exploring locations with minimal conflict and extra electrical work. Had presentation on tree planting project (stakes with flags around campus indicate new planting sites). Widening sidewalk to Weitz. Stone repair and pew refinishing in chapel. Goodhue bridge repair. Watson bike rack has been funded. May add more hanging racks. Discussion of shutting off College Street from Sayles to Weitz. Removing architecture on top of Olin. Many changes don’t go through committee. Steve Spehn would be the contact person. Chris interested in increasing accessibility to David by possibly adding sidewalk. Larger discussion needed—probably an issue of timing.

**CEDI:** Moving forward with official recommendation to dean’s office about religious holidays and the college calendar. Ice cream social for CEDI on Valentine’s Day—opportunity to ask questions, meet committee.

**Circulation:** Have not met since fall. Main pathways across campus could have bike/skateboard sides vs pedestrian sides for safety and ease of transportation. Ideas from meeting have probably been moved to the next level: Remove roundabout and close off road to Sayles. Amphitheatre near lakes.

**College Council:** Meets on Monday

**Special Events:** We enjoyed the SAC/Forum event. Open house style worked well.

**Wellness Slate:** Amanda and Kendra looked at peer schools. Carleton will provide paid coverage of some FMLA days, even though not legally required. Next step: set up meeting with HR to ensure their information is correct and shareable. Wide variety of leave-sharing options, but we should be able to find something that could be a good fit. Always trade-offs, of course, but there are peer institutions that have leave-sharing program.

HR/Forum Meeting: Talk to directors and supervisors about expectations. The system needs to require employees to report in a timely manner. (Time sheet approval type system.) More nasty emails. More tied to paychecks? Is there an automated system?

If it’s truly just exempt staff, how can we tell ANY member they’re not allowed to come to Forum? The background established who we wanted in the room to encourage free discussion. We can invite people when we want their input, but they’re receiving messages that they’re not supposed to be here.

FYI experience will be revamped—send some ideas to HR or us

Meeting with President: