UNIVERSITY OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday,
May 15, 2014

The meeting convened at 5:20 p.m.,
Errol Schwartz, Chair, presiding.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS PRESENT:

ERROL SCHWARTZ, Chair
CHRISTOPHER BELL
ELAINE CRIDER
JEROME SHELTON
JOSHUA WYNER

JAMES LYONS, Acting President

ALSO PRESENT:

VALERIE EPPS, Vice-President of Student Affairs
BEVERLY FRANKLIN, Executive Secretary
JUANITA GRAY, Director of Residence Life
STACIE MILLS, Office of General Counsel
KIMBERLY PENNAMON, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs
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CHAIR SCHWARTZ: The time is now 5:20 p.m. and I call the Student Affairs Committee meeting to order. Ms. Franklin could you call the roll please?

MS. FRANKLIN: General Schwartz.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Here.

MS. FRANKLIN: Mr. Bell.

TRUSTEE BELL: Here.

MS. FRANKLIN: Mr. Shelton.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Here.

MS. FRANKLIN: Mr. Wyner.

TRUSTEE WYNER: Here.

MS. FRANKLIN: Mr. Chair, you have a quorum.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. Thank you Ms. Franklin. The first order is to do a modification to the agenda. I'll entertain a motion to change the agenda to add a discussion on student housing. Say again.

TRUSTEE WYNER: So moved.
TRUSTEE BELL: Second.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: It's moved and seconded. So we'll add a discussion of the student housing as item number four, and the closing remarks will be item number five.

First item is the approval of the minutes. I'll entertain a motion to accept minutes as written, or are there any corrections?

(Off the record comments)

TRUSTEE BELL: I'd like to make a motion to approve the minutes.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: One second.

TRUSTEE BELL: Oh, I'm sorry.

TRUSTEE EPPS: Excuse me, Valerie Epps, Vice President of the Student Affairs.

Under Veterans Affairs, it says Dr. Epps reported that the VREP Program was extended. And that acronym should be VRAP, capital V, capital R, capital A, capital P. That was the only correction that I saw.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. What's
that acronym stands for, VRAP?

TRUSTEE EPPS: I'm not able to answer that. I can get back with you, I've seen that, on that one.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: And we will show that the minutes will be modified to show the reading out of the acronym VRAP on the Veterans Affairs.

Now I'll entertain a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: So moved.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: So moved by Mr. Shelton.

TRUSTEE BELL: Second.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Seconded by Mr. Bell. Thank you.

TRUSTEE WYNER: And I abstain.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Yes, thank you.

One abstention. Understood.

TRUSTEE WYNER: Due to lack of presence at the --

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Want to vote?
CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. As you are aware that we had Trustee Isaacs as the student rep on the committee. He graduated from the Law School and is no longer with the University. Another lawyer in town.

MALE PARTICIPANT: Just what we need.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: But there were some technicalities which caused the student elections not to be completed. And therefore we would like to modify the agenda, or the table, the time table, the time line so that we can have a special elections.

And this special time line is in your folder showing when the next elections will take place. And when we expect that to be completed. Any discussions on that time line?

We're hoping that the special elections can be completed by October, therefore we will have a student rep on the Board.
There is one concern that I have is that any meetings that we have, and there's not a student rep available, I'm concerned that the students are not appropriately represented at the Board. So we need to come up with a way to make sure that they are there is some representation for the students at any of the committee meetings or the Board meetings.

TRUSTEE EPPS: Trustee Schwartz, one of the things I thought about is inviting, a special invite to our student government leaders who are brand new, and anxious, and eager to participate in the happenings of the University, and provide their input.

An example of that was we just recently held a cultural climate meeting at the University. And so we did have representation from some of the student organizations.

What I'd like to do for future Board Members to ensure that, Board meetings
rather, to ensure that we have some student
input or opinions is to inform the student
government leaders what's going on. And also
to ask them to attend the Board meetings.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: As a part of the
audience, not as a part of the --

TRUSTEE EPPS: Yes, as a part of
the audience in case they wanted to express
any opinions.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Are there any
legal concerns on that process that we just
discussed from the general counsel's
perspective?

(No response)

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. So we'll
look to Student Affairs to pass it onto the
student body and let them know whenever
there's a Student Affairs meeting or a Board
meeting --

TRUSTEE EPPS: Yes.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: -- so that they
can be present in the audience and we let them
share. If we can make sure that we acknowledge their presence in the future.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: One question.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Go ahead, Trustee Shelton.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Is there, is it possible to have some sort of line of succession should the term of the Student Trustee be disrupted? Or some sort of plan for succession? And how does the changing of the dates affect the term of that position? Changing the election date?

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Yes, stand by, we're asking for a legal opinion on that. I'd rather not, I think the term should remain the same?

MALE PARTICIPANT: I think the term would remain the same.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: The term remains the same. And we have just as we spoke about earlier have some representation in the room to look out for the interest of the students...
during that time period. But we will not
interrupt the term. Because I think the terms
are set.

MS. MILLS: That's correct. Stacy
Mills, Office of General Counsel. The term is
statutory, so May 15th is the end of the term
regardless of when the Student Trustee starts.

Regarding the succession plan,
there isn't necessarily a succession plan in
the way we think of it, President, Vice
President.

But the DCMR does have a provision
for if the seat becomes vacant for any reason,
it has very specific rules on how and when the
seat would be filled.

So if it's after a certain date,
then they make certain provisions. If it's
before a certain date then they call for an
election to fill the seat.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Okay.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Thank you much.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Thank you --
TRUSTEE EPPS: And also the student would still be eligible for the same benefit in terms of tuition benefits.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Okay. Thank you.

TRUSTEE BELL: I'm sorry. So there's no provision then for the appointment of an interim? Nothing like that at all?

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: So if a student has already paid their fees, if you will, for the fall semester. And is elected through this special election process, retroactively they'll get credit for any fees for the fall semester?

MS. MILLS: That's correct.

(Off the record comments)

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. One of the issues that created this problem is the number of signatures. There was some technical and some substantive changes that had to be made. And I'll have Dr. Epps if you could explain those and then we'll go through what we need
to do as a resolution to make sure that we can
overcome this in the future.

TRUSTEE EPPS: Okay. One of the
problems that we've had in the past with the
last, I guess, three elections that I've been
employed at the University, is always the
signatures. We've had issues in terms of the
verification of 100 signatures.

And for this particular election,
one of the candidates, as in the past, turned
in over 100 signatures but still we're
required to have 100 signatures that are
legible, and also can be verified.

And so this election even though
the person, one of the candidates turned in
over 100 signatures, we still could not verify
but 95.

And in previous elections we have
also asked the Board, come to the Board and
asked them to lower the number to 50 or 75
because we had problems in verifying those
signatures.
So instead of coming to the Board to ask them to lower the number, it was decided that since we had two candidates and neither one had 95 verifiable signatures, that we would just have another election in the fall and ask the Board formally to lower the signature requirement to 25.

Those signatures however would still have to be verified and we will certainly ask students to turn in more than 25 because we don't want to get back to the same problem, that someone turns in 25 or 30 and we still don't have enough signatures for the person to be eligible to be a full-fledged candidate.

So that is the rationale for us asking for the number of signatures to be verified. Also sometimes it's very hard for our students to get signatures now-a-days because some people don't want to provide their signatures and their ID numbers because of the Identify theft problem.
So this makes it easier on students. They can still be out in the community collecting signatures, but they don't have to have as many verified.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. Questions about the issue? To that end we will forward the resolution to the Board to have those numbers reduced from 100 to 25.

So the President and the Vice President of Student Affairs recommend that the number of signatures verified for a petition to be valid be reduced from 100 to 25. And we will propose, or forward this resolution to the Committee of the Whole, the Board of Trustees actually.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: So moved. They need to vote don't they?

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. So do you have, do you have a copy of the resolution with you, Mr. Shelton?

TRUSTEE SHELTON: I've read it, yes.
CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. So I accept the motion to accept this resolution as written.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Yes.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: So moved by Mr. Shelton.

TRUSTEE BELL: Second.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Seconded by Mr. Bell. Discussions?

TRUSTEE WYNER: So how did we arrive, excuse me, so how did we arrive at 25? Rather than, it sounds like the candidates both came pretty close to this number.

TRUSTEE EPPS: Yes.

TRUSTEE WYNER: So why are we lowering the threshold? I mean it does seem to me that there's something to be said for having enough people that are willing to sign a piece of paper to say, we want you to serve on the Board. And I'm just wondering why we're going all the way down from 100 to 25?

TRUSTEE EPPS: Well we --
TRUSTEE SHELTON: Mr. Bell.

TRUSTEE BELL: No. Yes, that's not me though.

TRUSTEE WYNER: No, I'm sorry. Excuse me, yes, this was Josh Wyner.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Go ahead, Mr. Shelton, you have a question?

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: I guess, so go ahead Valerie.

TRUSTEE EPPS: Okay.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Hello. Are you still there, connected?

TRUSTEE EPPS: Yes.

TRUSTEE SHELTON: Okay.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Did you have a question, Mr. Shelton?

TRUSTEE SHELTON: No, I was trying to respond to Mr. Bell. Mr. Bell, I've been around three student and alumni elections? And every year we are challenged with the time lines and the number of signatures. And it's been a problem that has
filtered through every election that I can, and the last three elections I believe have all been challenged by numbers and time lines. And we've gotten great candidates but not receiving the talent of the young people. But it's a very narrow field of people. And apparently it's been difficult to get confirmed signatures.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. I think the real question on the table was why the drastic drop from 100 to 25. Because as Vice President Epps just spoke about, there were 95 verified signatures by one candidate, which is not very far from 100, if you will.

TRUSTEE WYNER: And the other, how many did the, pardon me. How many did the other have? How many verified signatures for the second candidate?

TRUSTEE EPPS: Was 95 signatures.

TRUSTEE WYNER: For both.

TRUSTEE EPPS: For both candidates.
TRUSTEE WYNER: For each candidate.

TRUSTEE EPPS: But one candidate turned in over 100 and it dropped down to 95. The other candidate turned in 95 signatures, but also was not eligible because was not in financial, in good standing with the University.

So that person was automatically disqualified because one of the first requirements is that you have to be in good financial standing with the University.

That was just the, the number 25 is not a magical number. We just wanted to, it was a number based upon success. We've had the number of signatures in the past range probably from 25 to oh, like I said, to over 100.

But then when you go back and verify them, sometimes we've had to go back and come back to the Board like I said a few times to ask them to go down to, I think 25 or
And so it wasn't, wasn't set in stone.

TRUSTEE WYNER: And so there's been a history where it's gone down that low. I guess the question is really, is there any value in having the candidates go out and collect these signatures? I mean what's the value here?

If we think that there's not a lot of value, then I think 25 is fine. If we think that trying to get them to gather signatures is something that has some value, there's an educational experience there, and trying to sell yourself to others and get them to sign up, and maybe getting other people in the community involved, then you know, larger may make sense.

I was just curious how we arrived at 25? But if we don't think that the value of going beyond 25 is significant for either the community or the candidate, I'm comfortable with that number.

TRUSTEE BELL: And I'm curious
with the student government elections, is there a requirement also for those can --

TRUSTEE EPPS: No.

TRUSTEE BELL: So there's no requirement.

TRUSTEE EPPS: This is the only I guess, office, that requires the signatures and certainly that's been passed around and pontificated on, in terms of whether we should even have signatures or not.

But some people felt strongly that we should, that it you know, makes the student get out into the community to meet and greet people. That it forces them to do that.

And others you know, might say it's not. So this was like a compromise of opinions that we have, input that we had received.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: And this student represents not only the flagship, but the community college and the Law School?

TRUSTEE EPPS: That's correct.
CHAIR SCHWARTZ: And I'm struggling here also with whether 25 is that right magical number across the three areas of the University.

And but, as you said there is nothing magical about 25, but is we think that there is value in the student getting out and if you will, soliciting votes from the three areas then is 25 that right number?

TRUSTEE EPPS: Kim, did you have an opinion?

MS. PENNAMON: Kimberly Pennamon, Associate Vice President of the Student Affairs. We have had this issue historically. The bigger issue I think is, even if we lower the number, what happens if the students presenting applications get 20 or 21 signatures, as opposed to the 25?

So I think it would be helpful for us to perhaps maybe consider including a contingency plan, that if they still fall within a margin of error of signatures, what
will happen?

Because we've gotten to this point in the past three elections where we've reached almost 100, almost 50, almost 75. And in the previous cases, students have gotten over 100 signatures. In this case both candidates had over 100 signatures. And we were only able to verify 95.

PRESIDENT LYONS: Kim don't go. I haven't asked this question before, but I'll ask it now. Have you been able to confirm or document that students are deriving social benefit? I mean has anybody actually monitored it?

I mean, you know, there are Greek Letter organizations that require pledges, quote, to go out and get the signatures of all the members.

The assumption is that you will then engage in a conversation with those members. They would find out a little bit about you and you about them as a part of the
organization. So the rationale makes sense if those conversations take place.

Now when you're requiring 100 signatures, are we to assume that the person engaged in 100 conversations about something material, or did they just go out and say hey, would you sign this paper?

I mean I think that there's a fundamental question being asked here because, and when you said well if we go down to 25 and somebody only gets 20, we'll be back in the same situation.

MALE PARTICIPANT: That's correct.

PRESIDENT LYONS: And I made the decision not to waive or not to recommend that we waive the requirement, and certainly I would not want to be around in August when you say 25 signatures and then find out that we could only verify 23. And we're back in the same boat. I think that's the bigger issue here.

So, have you ever in your
experience documented that there is a social
benefit of some kind that makes gathering
signatures worth it?

MS. PENNAMON: I will say that in
the past three elections, they varied. In
some cases there has been some engagement
between the potential candidates and the
constituents, so to say.

In some cases however, and the
guidelines do allow for this, that they will
get friends or peers to take those sheets
around for them and collect those particular
signatures.

Now it was my understanding that
this came about as kind of a model of district
government guidelines where they go and get
signatures from constituents in the city.

And that we were trying to mimic
what was being done in the city. There is
some dialog, but it has varied from election
to election.

TRUSTEE EPPS: This also modeled
in the design for the Alumni Trustees, those Trustees that are alumni. And they had to get a certain amount of signatures when I first came here.

I don't know if that still exists but that was, I guess it's just those alumni that were running for Trustee positions then. That was also carried over to the Student Trustee position as well.

TRUSTEE WYNER: I'm sorry. I just want one last question. What happens afterwards? Are there any debates or conversations among folks about what they would do? I mean how does the vote then happen?

What happens after the signatures are gathered? Are there serious conversations about what they'd want to do as a member of a member of the Board of Trustees? What the gaps are that they see in student offerings, or something?

MS. PENNAMON: So the process
involves, after the signatures are submitted, we have the process of verification. And that's where we go and we speak with, or actually get verifications from the Office of the Registrar as well as the Office of Student Accounts to see if they meet the academic and financial criteria that's set forth by the guidelines.

Once that's done then we proceed with the time line, which could potentially include a meet and greet the candidates. So that's an opportunity where, and it depends again with each particular set of candidates.

They can decide we want to have a debate. We can decide that oh, we want to just have it where constituents can come into a room. We can speak for a few minutes and answer and entertain questions.

Or in some cases they may just want to stand out and interact with their constituents in the different buildings and so forth. So we've used each model for the past
three years.

TRUSTEE WYNER: So I guess that to me the bigger question here is, I think having a student voice in this body is really important. And I think that, that student voice should be somebody that has the trust and respect of their peers. And is here to represent a perspective that people understand when they're voting.

And so while I'm comfortable with the policy as proposed whether it's 25 or 50 perhaps, you know, I'm not, I wouldn't stand in the way of that. But I think there's a broader question here.

And you know we know that lots of students are bowling alone these days and I might sound like an old guy here, but the question here is how do we foster that kind of engagement? Because I know that all of us believe that students are at the center of the work that we do.

And if we're not finding that
they're engaged, either because they're not
signing each other's petitions or going out
and talking to one another, that to me is the
deeper question.

So again, I think this is the, a
tip of the iceberg kind of indication that
there's more work to do. And I think that the
elections are one way that we can make sure
that their voice is represented in governance.

So I just wanted to make that
statement and see whether we collectively can
think a little bit and maybe you have ideas
about particularly in regards to the
elections, how we use this process, to engage
students further?

(Simultaneous speaking)

MS. PENNAMON: Absolutely to
promote and engage specifically --

TRUSTEE WYNER: So I would welcome
those ideas that you have.

TRUSTEE BELL: And it's
interesting. I actually thought you were
going in the opposite direction. I'm not sure that it's valid and necessary having the signature requirement because under, and with the two candidates you have now, had we not had the signature requirement we theoretically would have a Trustee right now, a Student Trustee.

MS. PENNAMON: That's correct.

TRUSTEE BELL: And so, you know, we have student leaders that are being elected that don't have any petition requirement. I'd hate to get down to August and then we have another snafu and it's 21, or 20, or what have you.

And so if the students are in good standing, if they're enrolled, if they're full time, you know, it seems like to me then that should be sufficient in order for them to be eligible.

And then in terms of doing candidate forums or what have you, to do engagement, you know, I think that's where
that part comes in.

And ideally there would be forums, you know, at the community college, as well at the flagship. And that all students would be signing, if they are signing. So I'm, you know, the more and more we talk about this. I'm not even sure that we need a signature requirement at all. And then we wouldn't have had this issue.

And we'd have a Student Trustee because now we're looking at October. You get on October and then we have the holiday break and so now the Student Trustee is going to be serving what, on two or three meetings maybe? Or get to attend?

MS. PENNAMON: Possibly, at least for the semester. Yes.

TRUSTEE BELL: Yes, so it's a real disadvantage to be coming in so late in the year, so.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: But if you look at the effectiveness of the Student Trustee as
a representative of the students across the
campus, that's all three areas. How do we
know that, that trustee is bringing the needs
of all the students, if they're not out there
engaging them?

We have a task force on the
Student Affairs and I don't think that was
very effective because there has been nothing
coming to the Board from that task force.

So we just have to look at what
are the ways that we can get out and talk to
the students and make sure that when that
trustee comes to the table, he or she is
bringing the values, the needs, the wants, the
ideas of the students.

And what better way than going out
there and soliciting those, candidates?

TRUSTEE BELL: Well ideally that
would help them. I was just going to say
ideally that would work, as that you know,
ideally that they've gone out they've
solicited, gotten the signatures, and they're
coming, and they're ready.

You know, I've heard instances where that always wasn't the case necessarily after they got on. So you know, the threshold issues of whether getting the signatures, whether that facilitates that, I'm not sure if that's the case.

I mean we want a trustee that's on, and it's not just the Student Trustees, all the trustees obviously need to be engaged and reaching out, and trying to interact with students. And so making them meet the signature requirement, I'm not sure that, that does that.

PRESIDENT LYONS: Not if they send it out with their friends.

(Simultaneous speaking)

TRUSTEE WYNER: Well but that doesn't bother me. I mean if they have --

PRESIDENT LYONS: They're not engaging though.

TRUSTEE WYNER: Well but they're
engaging their friends who are willing to go
out on their behalf. I mean you know it's a
different strategy.

So to me I would like to see some
threshold of signatures. Because I think to
me it's actually just about seriousness of
effort. I'd hate to have a bunch of people
say, yes, you should. Yes, I'll do it. And
then you've got three or four candidates and
there's no debate.

And we end up with somebody who's
really never thought about it at all. It's a
beauty contest and not related at all to what
they want to bring to the Board. So I do
think that some signatures just suggest to me
that they've got a little bit of skin in the
game, honestly.

TRUSTEE BELL: But don't you
think, but separate and apart from the
signatures, once you get the signatures, you
can still do the candidate forums and seminars
and all that.
TRUSTEE WYNER: Yes, so maybe 25 is enough.

(Simultaneous speaking)

MS. PENNAMON: And there still is a campaign period also in which they still have to go out and campaign and interact with their peers.

TRUSTEE EPPS: Some candidates are more active than others. Some go to the community college and they go to the Law School. Sometimes we've even had the candidate, pictures of the candidates and they did videos on --

MS. PENNAMON: On the Web.

TRUSTEE EPPS: -- on the web.

That we put on the website. So no matter what, you know, what day you were on campus if you missed the personal presentation.

You can always look at the, you know, the campaign speeches, the forums from your bed if you'd like. But, so it did offer candidates an opportunity to reach out
electronically to those student populations as well.

MS. PENNAMON: And Ms. Mills just reminded us that it's, the signatures are statutory so I believe that we are bound to keep --

TRUSTEE WYNER: To have something.

MS. PENNAMON: Yes.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. All right.

Well that solves that problem. All those in favor of this resolution as written, with the 25 signatures being the requirement, signify by saying, aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Those opposed?

The ayes have it.

The next topic that we added was student housing. And I was fortunate to visit the campus just a couple weeks ago and walk through the housing as students were departing. And I must say I was very pleased with what we're providing.
However there was one item I'd like to bring to the Board and that's the five students per apartment versus four. I think as I walked through the Consulate and the other one, the --

TRUSTEE EPPS: The Archstone.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: -- the Archstone, I looked at both apartments. I think the five students per apartment was really a rough life if you will. With students on bunk beds et cetera, et cetera.

I would like to see a better student life in those apartments and I'll ask you to come and give your opinion of what you thought of those apartments.

MS. GRAY: Juanita Gray, Director of Residence Life. So currently we have two apartment complexes that house our students. We have the Archstone Van Ness, which houses four students per apartment, two in each bedroom.

And currently the Consulate which
houses five people per apartment, three in one bedroom on a bunk bed and two in the other bedroom.

Though the rooms do, or though the Consulate apartments do have two bathrooms, so the students do have a better ratio where bathrooms are concerned, the space in the Consulate is much smaller so the students really are packed in there like sardines.

We have some of our bigger athletes who literally are on top of each other. And it makes it just an uncomfortable living situation for the students and we want to make it as comfortable as possible.

We're currently, I'm working with Dr. Epps, Paris, I forget his last --

TRUSTEE EPPS: Sanders.

MS. GRAY: -- Paris Sanders and our CFO. And looking at the price that we charge students for housing compared to what we're offering them. We have to factor in the furniture rental. We have to factor in
utilities. We have to factor in the cable, the internet that we provide.

So we're currently looking at raising the prices for the apartments for next year by a percentage. But we're also looking at lowering the bed spaces in those apartments as well.

TRUSTEE EPPS: And the furniture.

MALE PARTICIPANT: What do they -- oh, go ahead.

TRUSTEE EPPS: I'm sorry, the furniture we're planning on, we've been renting furniture for three years now and we figure it's time to start purchasing furniture, even if we have to do it a little bit at a time.

Maybe half and half or whatever we can afford in terms of our budget and still be able to, you know, break even or have a profit.

MS. GRAY: So we're slowing phasing in furniture. I've replaced one of
the mattresses that we're renting from Brook's Furniture. Took out some of the bunk beds just for a summer conference group that we have coming in. I requested four spaces instead of five.

I still have the bunk beds just in case we have to put them back up for fall, but we bought sixteen new mattresses to try to phase out how much we're spending on rental furniture.

I've also met with one furniture company this past Monday. He gave me some numbers on what it would look like to phase in desks, tables, chairs, things like that for the apartments.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Well we have a contract for the furniture, when does that expire?

MS. GRAY: That I would have to get the exact date on. I believe it's a continual contract. It's a, almost a monthly.

TRUSTEE EPPS: It's probably in
the fall.

MS. GRAY: Yes.

TRUSTEE EPPS: I'm sure it is, all

them around August.

MS. GRAY: Around August. Most of

our contracts end around August and replenish

again.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: When I looked at

the desks for example, in the Consulate versus

those in Archstone, there were some huge
desks. Executive desks in those small
apartments. Is there a possibility of
changing those out to smaller desks?

MS. GRAY: Absolutely. If we

purchase the desks, and I have a brochure that

I can pass around and give you an idea of what

I'm looking at in terms of purchasing desks.

If we continue to rent the Brook's Furniture,

they, I've had a conversation with them the

other day. And they can't provide the

quantity that we need.

So we need to look into another
furniture rental company in order to get smaller desks. But if we purchase them and just have them our self. That is a possibility.

And the cost of purchasing is equal to the amount that we are, it's actually less, than the amount that we rent. It is a bigger cost up front. Up front is always a bigger cost. But when you add up how much we spend renting, it's way less to purchase.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: So what I would like to do is to have an assessment done of the entire agreement for student housing, and if you could present a plan showing us what the cost would be for rental versus purchasing.

What the cost of our monies lost would be for moving from five students per apartment to four. And what, how can we offset that cost? You mentioned earlier by increasing the rent, if you will.

MS. GRAY: Yes.
CHAIR SCHWARTZ: So where is that break point? So that we can offset the number of beds lost. I thought you said we're going to lose eight beds.

MS. GRAY: We would. And I can give you a small estimate right now. We would lose eight spaces at $8400 per academic year. That's a total of $67,200 we would lose. However, I have summer conferences that I have coming in, added revenue to our budget for the year.

I want to share with the Board, I have four confirmed conferences, 25 confirmed interns that are moving in for the summer. And then another 20 students who are living with us over the summer as well.

So right now I'm projected to bring in $198,000 just in summer revenue. So I think that can help offset the $67,000 that we would be losing if we went down to eight beds.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: And it's all
about the student life. You mentioned earlier packing in like sardines and I think it would improve the student life by having four individuals per apartment rather than five.

MS. GRAY: Absolutely, yes.

TRUSTEE BELL: So this was discussed when we were looking at the student housing. And part of the reason why we needed that five was because that kept the number, the rental number lower for the students in a range that was acceptable.

So if we remove one, then in essence you're doing a rental increase. Or you're thinking that the, you're going to have a cross subsidy because you're going to have this money coming in from these summer programs? So that will offset the nine months of student living during the school year?

MS. GRAY: It will offset it, but at the same time when students, and I've been here for about two months so I'm going off of information that I've received.
But when students are presented with the five bedroom spaces, it's not something that's really, they don't want it.

TRUSTEE BELL: That's right, yes.

MS. GRAY: So we also have the probability of losing money because no one wants to go into that fifth space.

TRUSTEE BELL: That's right.

MS. GRAY: So we can make it four spaces. We can look at increases because of the amenities that they're receiving. I can do different prices because they have two bathrooms as opposed to one bathroom over in the Archstone.

There's lots of ways that we can configure it and justify, and it's not that we just want to charge students extra money willy-nilly. We're charging them for the services that they're being provided.

TRUSTEE BELL: And so then how many students then would be served because at the Consulate wasn't it going to be, was it 75
students?

MS. GRAY: There's --

TRUSTEE BELL: I might be getting my numbers mixed up. I don't remember what the numbers were of the students that were going to be served.

MS. GRAY: There's currently 40 at the five bed spaces.

TRUSTEE BELL: So then that would mean 32 students would now be served going forward if we adopt this?

MS. GRAY: Yes, and we have also been approved to add five more, five additional apartments, which would also bring in additional revenue.

TRUSTEE BELL: Okay, and so, and then are we 100 percent occupied as well over there? What's the occupancy rate?

MS. GRAY: For right now, for summer we have one conference group that's occupying four of the apartment's spaces. And they will be there until August, they move in
next week.

(Simultaneous speaking)

MS. GRAY: Oh, in semester?

TRUSTEE BELL: Yes, during the school year because I know some problems with like one or two units trying to keep them full, so. Are you able to say what the occupancy rate was for the school year?

MS. GRAY: For the academic, for spring semester we were down 10 spaces total. That was seven in the Archstone and three in the Consulate.

TRUSTEE EPPS: But for fall we were 100 percent.

MS. GRAY: For fall we were 100 percent according to the records that I've seen.

TRUSTEE BELL: And so, and do you know what your fall of 2015 is going to be already or is it too soon?

MS. GRAY: It's too soon to tell but I'm banking at 110 percent actually.
TRUSTEE BELL: That's going to be for 100 percent?

TRUSTEE EPPS: 110 percent?

MS. GRAY: I plan on having a nice waiting list of students.

TRUSTEE BELL: Okay. Well this is good to know obviously.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Yes, yes.

TRUSTEE BELL: Because I mean the Board has expressed an interest in having student housing if the numbers aligned. And so if we see that, that demand is strong and that the students are interested, and we can make the economics work. I mean, this is the first step towards moving us toward that vision of on campus housing.

MS. GRAY: Absolutely.

TRUSTEE EPPS: And I want to say this was the first, this is the first year that the Law School has invited the housing staff to come down and make a presentation to our Law School students.
In our meeting again we've had on cultural climate, the other day we had a couple of students there and there was a question, what do you think the, if the University is really serious, what do you think that they ought to do?

So one of the students was a, was really the President of the Graduate Student Association, and he said we needed to provide more graduate housing and more housing for International Students.

And so I think that also having four to a room makes that more attractive to an older student. It's been my experience in housing before that young students you can put them anywhere. You could probably put six in a room and they won't hassle you that first year.

But the minute then they become a sophomore, they'll either move off campus or they're going to move some place where they can have a little bit more room, a little bit
more privacy.

TRUSTEE BELL: And have we explored, I think I asked this department, that new construction that's going on for I don't know if those are apartments or condos, where the Pier One used to be.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Condos.

TRUSTEE BELL: Will that be condos?

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Yes.

TRUSTEE BELL: Okay, well that takes care of that then.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: One more question, Juanita, before you leave. Have you done any exploration of the electronic locks?

MS. GRAY: I'm still in the process of that. This weekend I had move-out with the students, and cleaners and painters, and so my plate has been a little full.

But I will have that information for you by next week. I'll email it to you.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Okay. We just
want to look at the cost, benefits, there --

MS. GRAY: Absolutely.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: -- and re-keying, and security being the number one on the list.

MS. GRAY: Absolutely.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Because there are cases where people may duplicate the keys et cetera. Okay. Great, thank you much.

MS. GRAY: Thank you.

TRUSTEE BELL: Thank you.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: That concludes the meeting. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

PRESIDENT LYONS: You forgot your close. You don't have any closing remarks.

PRESIDENT LYONS: Oh, no remarks.

Mr. President, do you have any closing remarks?

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Entertain a motion to adjourn? Okay. We'll continue.

MALE PARTICIPANT: Was I supposed, motion to close.
TRUSTEE BELL: Second. I'm sorry.

CHAIR SCHWARTZ: Thank you.

(Whereupon, the meeting in the above-entitled matter was concluded at 6:02 p.m.)
CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Board of Trustees: Committee Meeting

Before: Errol Schwartz

Date: Thursday, May 15, 2014

Place: UDC

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

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