**Jan 28th ,2022 Meeting starts at 11:30am**

In attendance: Tamar Avnet, Abraham Ravid, Edward Zelinsky, Jonathan Dauber, Gabriel Cwilich, Richard Zweig, Suzanne Stone, Vladimir Kovtun, Jill Katz, Ran Drori, Anna-Lisa Cohen, Elisabeth Miawski, Susan Mason, Noam Wasserman, Jocelyn Kestenbaum, Selma Botman, Richard Keeling, Joe Bednarsh,

The provost:

Introduces Richard Keeling (consultant)

**Richard Keeling (Strategic Planning- Keeling and Associates)**

New Plan: Guidance, provides direction, maps the way forward 2022-2026. Principles and Values (Strong foundation of Jewish thought, rooted in Torah)

*Foundations:* Academic Quality and Reputation, Student Experience and Success, One YU (joint programs, project, etc.), Administrative, Financial, and Operational Excellence (Promote operational excellence across YU). Jewish People project, Israel (relationships, commitments).

Strategic Directions: Skillset (STEM), Mindset (Entrepreneurship and Innovation), Outcomes (Jobs & Careers), Character (Values & Leadership)

Avri: There is very little emphasis on research in the strategic plan.

Jonathan: No mention of humanities, social sciences, liberal arts, Jewish studies, Business fields, etc.

*Richard Keeling:* Main Plan Document does include Jewish studies, etc.

Selma believes many faculty were involved with their deans in creation of the plan.

Tamar: How will business and liberal arts schools be involved in the plan going forward.

Selma: Deans will be working with the various schools. Entrepreneurship is a mindset that we want to have across the board. Will communicate to the deans to work with the faculty.

**Joe Bednarsh**

Return to campus going well. Enforcing covid tests, at least 86% boostered. Entire process is done manually. When a positive result happens we are trying to let entire class know. If a class is missed, it is an error, apologizes in advance. Isolation and quarantine follow CDC guidelines.

Avri: Is there a sense for what percentage of students have exemptions.

Joe: We are legally obligated to allow medical and religions exemptions. Currently about 50 (3%) have exemptions (most are in their 90-day window). Very few that will not get the booster.

Anna-Lisa: What do we do about students who are not masking up. Could incentives possibly help.

Joe: All schools are having an issue with enforcement. We keep sending emails. Open to any and all suggestions.

Tamar: Even security guards in Gleuk are not wearing masks. Professors are not wearing masks, all their students are not wearing masks.

Re lack of masking in Glueuk including security guards, Joe Bednarsh is open to ideas to correct problem.

Gabriel Cwilich advocates better signs to enforce masking

**Provost Report (Selma):**

1. Dean of Social Work resigned. Search firm hired. Search Committee chaired by Noam Wasserman

2. Adam Gertz will be taking a job at NY philharmonic.

3. Chad Austin, Director of Enrollment Management is leaving

4. VP for Finance and Administration search is in progress. Offer has been extended but not yet public

5. A few violations of academic integrity were found

6. Project of bringing two Afghan academics in psychology to YU at the beginning of next semester. (depending on them getting visas, etc.). Aiming to bring four people to YU.

7. Hebrew faculty is working to put three levels of Hebrew online

Edward Zelinsky: Following on a discussion with President Berman he said he would get data or documentation regarding the insurance premium increase.

Selma asked to send follow-up email in order to keep track.

Gabriel suggests that we bring Julie to the next meeting.

Avri: There is a concern among Hebrew teaching faculty about a move to asynchronous learning.

Selma: Online instruction is usually not endorsed by those that have not seen well run courses. Now we are working with a firm that designs beautiful courses. The most criticism from students is that Hebrew teaching is unsatisfactory. This will be a pilot and if it does not work, we will move back to face to face. Selma believes in this platform and that it will enhance the student experience.

Our students are the busiest students anywhere because of the dual-curriculum and the hope is that this alleviates some of the issues they are having.

Avri: What should we do when we have students that are positive with Covid. Some classrooms are not equipped to even have zoom.

Selma: We have heard from the deans that each faculty member should decide how to accommodate their students.

Vlad: There is an issue with YU issued laptops as we do not have administrative rights.

Selma: IT is very worried about the computer system being compromised. It would be helpful to inform Suzette about our needs and ask if there is any work-around. If IT is worried about system being compromised then the work around will be difficult.

Vlad will write up email to Suzette and see what she says.

Avri: Northwestern has some classes that are very well equipped to handle the dual-learning environment. This is the future and an opportunity to be the first to provide this.

Selma: The problems with the supply chain is delaying even getting computers by many months. But we should try to put orders in.

Gabriel: Can Noam describe what he did to get his faculty involved in strategic planning.

Noam: Multiple rounds, first involving senior faculty. Most of the work was done through google-docs. Once it grew to about 13 pages, comments were contributed by faculty. Consolidated to about 5-6 slides that summarized and went over at faculty meeting with a link to the document provided beforehand. We then handed it to Richard Keeling.

Avri: Noam can also tell us how the amounts of the raises were decided.

Noam: Raises were decided upon in a collaborative process (based on several transparent criteria).

It seems other deans have not followed such a process.

December 10th minutes approved with adding the resolution letters attached to the minutes.

Executive Session:

Discussed the recent raises and the participation of faculty in the strategic learning process. Avri was asked to remind the president and provost of our request to form a joint committee to discuss compensation and related issues.

Meeting adjourned at 115