

University of Washington
Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services
Council Notes
October 30, 2014, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Review of Life Sciences Building Project
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1) Review of Life Sciences Building Project

Troy Stahlecker, Capital Projects Office, gave a presentation on the Life Sciences building project. The presentation is available on the FCUFS web site.

The goal is a state of the art biology research facility that will free up space in Kincaid (next door), Guthrie and Hitchcock for less research-intensive usage.

The site is the present greenhouse area next to Kincaid. It is bounded on the north by an art installation (bus shelters and the cedars on either side of Stevens Way), on the east by the forest grove people walk through to South Campus, on the south by the Burke Gilman trail and on the west by Kincaid. (Actually, the site is angled so 'west' above is west northwest.) The Burke Gilman trail will be moved southwest slightly (in line with the Burke Gilman rebuild) to make enough space for the trees on the northeast side of the building.

The building will have undergraduate teaching labs on the ground floor and four floors of restricted access research labs above. The upper basement will be support for greenhouses that extend out of the south and east sides. Loading dock access is from the east. There will also be some animal care for animal types not housed in ARCF, such as bats. Part of the roof will be research space, the rest is machinery. An underground tunnel will connect with Kincaid. The space between Life Sciences and Kincaid will be 'energized' with a plaza and stairs.

Recently a sub-basement was added to house "growth chambers", the modern way to do plant research.

The major current open issue is where to house the plant collection from the existing greenhouses during the two year construction period.

Cost will be \$160.5M, to be met from Arts and Sciences reserves, bonds, and a \$40M legislative request. This request is competing with a \$40M request for the Computer Science and Engineering Building, and seems likely to lose, if the legislature has any money to spend. However, the project will go to the Regents in November to authorize hiring an architect, which is a \$3-6M commitment, and the current plan is to 'shell out' the 5th floor if the legislative money falls through.

The building goal is LEED Silver. FCUFS comments were that this was a low goal. Also, office windows face southwest, and offices will be hot if not well designed.

The problem of ADA access through the building was discussed at length, because the sketch of the space between Kincaid and Life Sciences has a number of ADA ramps that are not aesthetically pleasing. Elevators have been considered, but a solution with them has not proven workable.

The possibility of moving biology labs from Johnson Hall to Life Sciences was discussed. The rooms in Johnson could be easily repurposed to general purpose classrooms. FCUFS affirmed its view that all buildings on central campus should have general purpose classrooms as a matter of principle, if only to bring students into proximity with the research work.

FCUFS members made a number of additional comments which are not reflected in this note.

Minutes by Rich Christie, Council Chair

Present: **Faculty:** Christie (Chair), Gatres, Little, Maitland, Mescher, Migliaccio, Ozubko, Rorabaugh, Dossick

President's Designee: Kennedy

Ex-Officio Reps: Kennedy, Byrne, Khan, Carroll, Goldblatt

Guests: Troy Stahlecker, Capital Projects Office

Absent: **Faculty:** Balick, Proksch

Ex-Officio Reps: Taricani