

6 June 2008

To: Gerry Philipsen, Secretary of the Faculty
From: Bruce Balick, Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on University Facilities and Services
Re: Annual Report 2007-08

FCUFS, or the Faculty Senate Committee on University Facilities and Services, "...shall be responsible for all matters of policy relating to University facilities and services such as building needs, space utilization, supplies and equipment, administrative services, and parking and traffic problems. Faculty Code, Sec 42-47. "

A broad mix of issues comes before FCUFS annually. FCUFS examines each of them primarily for their impacts on UW's academic program, leaving details of the designs and implementation to the Architectural Commission, the Capital Projects office or other administrative or technical units.

FCUFS met on eight occasions between Oct. 2007 and June 2008. Here are the highlights.

Stewardship and Sustainability

FCUFS devoted much of its time this year to the implementation of sustainable operations practices and the implementation of best practices on the Seattle campus. Information on current and proposed practices was presented to us by John Chapman, Charles Kennedy, Michael Peterson (IMA), Joshua Kavanaugh (Transportation Planning), and Stephanie Steppe (head of facilities at Health Sciences). These demonstrate a wide range of initiatives in the planning and implementation stages adopted by many administrative leaders on the campus. We also heard from the co-chairs of ESAC (Environmental Stewardship Advisory Council) who formulate viable recommendations for future stewardship activity to the President and Executive Vice President. The co-chairs are Sandra Archibald and Karen van Dusen. FCUFS was particularly impressed by their energy and commitment, as well as by the effective responses from the central administration, the UW Medical Center, and Housing & Food Services to many of the recommendations from ESAC, such as the greening of our vehicle fleet. As a result of the work of ESAC and related administrative decisions, UW won several national awards for its leadership in sustainability practices in the past 6 months.

FCUFS developed a class-C resolution praising ESAC and the Administration for their efforts and pressing for more support for future activities under consideration by ESAC. It is clear that the low-hanging fruit has been harvested in the greening of the campus, and that future progress will take more effort and collaboration, especially in areas of controlling atmospheric carbon (i.e., commuting, air flights, and campus heating). FCUFS went on record as wanting to remain an active collaborator with ESAC through frequent liaison as new programs reach the implementation stage.

The class-C resolution on this topic was introduced and passed unanimously by the Faculty Senate at its meeting on April 24 2008.

Sound Transit Station at Husky Stadium

ST reps along with Andy Casillas and Peter Dewey introduced nearly final plans for pedestrian movement between the ST station and various parts of campus. A lengthy discussion followed within FCUFS without any action taken. Plans that were jointly developed by ST and UW were approved by consensus.

Expansion of the UW Medical Facility (UW Hospital)

The UWMC is planning a significant increase in patient services, including more hospital rooms and surgical and recuperation space. UWMC proposes a five-story addition south of the present hospital (expandable by another three floors). Designs were presented to FCUFS in the early concept design stage and then later in the final design stage. They were approved.

Master Plans for Student Housing near Campus Parkway

Housing and Food Services presented an early draft of a master plan for the construction of new dorms and related student facilities near the Campus Parkway. These would be debt financed. The end result will be a doubling of UW's dormitory capacity in Seattle. In the shorter term the new dormitories would be used while older facilities (mostly on the eastern edge of the campus) are extensively remodeled. FCUFS gave preliminary approval to the plan with suggestions for site changes, health facilities, and possible first-floor public activities (shops, clinics, etc.).

Other Items in Brief

- UW Tower: we followed progress in populating the tower throughout the year, and again implored the Provost's Office to identify ways to shuffle offices so as to open academic space (teaching space, clinics, and faculty offices) on or near the central campus.
- Emergency Communication System: plans for constructing new emergency warning systems and "blue emergency towers" throughout campus were reviewed and approved
- A report on risk assessments on the SE campus was reviewed on several occasions.
- Evolving plans for SR520 were reviewed by Theresa Doherty, along with a preliminary assessment of design impacts on commuters, traffic, and academics. SR520 designs will continue to evolve throughout 2008, so no approvals by FCUFS were necessary.
- Plans for more extensive campus signage were presented to us by Kristine Kenney, Campus Landscape Architect. Final planning will start soon. FCUFS will review and approve.
- Relocation of Cunningham Hall. The present site of Cunningham Hall must be cleared by the fall in order to allow construction of the MicroEngineering Building to commence at the end of the year. FCUFS was asked to comment on three possible locations for Cunningham. FCUFS voted unanimously in favor of a small site west of Parrington Hall and disapproved both of the other sites. It should be noted that the Parrington site requires an exception to the UW Master Plan by the City of Seattle, which is expected since the footprint of the building is so small.

Council Members: Professors Bruce Balick (Chair), Donna Berry, Howard Chizeck, Sarah Nash Gates, Isabelle Bichindaritz, Laura Little, Charles Moore, Chris Ozubko, William Rorabaugh, Charles Treser; ex officio members: Charles Chamberlin (AUWL representative), Charles Kennedy (Associate Vice President, Facilities Services)(President's Designee), Colleen Pike, and Mark Schoen (PSO rep).