

**Minutes**  
**Council on Built Environment**  
**November 16, 2005**

Voting members attending: Theresa Maldonado for Kem Bennett, Ralph Davila for Russell Cross, Rick Floyd, Clint Magill, David Parrott, Bill Perry, Tom Regan, Chuck Sippial, and Joel Wixson.

Non-voting members attending: Bruce Edwards, Shelly Janac, James Massey, Raye Milburn, Mary Miller, Nancy Sawtelle and Dick Williams.

Guests: Bill Byrne, Kevin Hurley, Wally Groff, and Pat Henry.

Sippial chaired the meeting until Perry arrived.

Indoor Practice Facility

The Athletic Department previously proposed the construction of a \$70 million athletics multipurpose training facility to be constructed adjacent to Kyle Field. The Department has revised its request and is now requesting permission to construct two indoor practice facilities, estimated to cost \$20-25 million. The funding for the construction would be provided by the Athletic Department from donations and other sources.

Sippial noted that the request was reviewed by the CFPC and its technical subcommittee and they recommend that the facilities proceed with the following caveats:

1. Issues related to the facility's consistency with the Campus Master Plan be resolved by groups with the responsibility to provide this judgment such as the CBE or Design Review Board.
2. Maintenance issues related to the fabric cover be sufficiently resolved.
3. The difference of cost to provide thermal utilities needed by the facility be reconciled between the Athletic Department's estimate and those provided by the Physical Plant.

Magill moved and Parrott seconded to accept the recommendations made by the Campus Facilities Planning Committee in respect to the Indoor Practice Facilities. During the discussion phase of the motion, Byrne noted that the fabric cover has an eight year unconditional warranty and a 15 year provisional warranty.

A vote was taken on the motion with all voting members in favor, with one abstaining. It was noted that an exception will have to be granted since the proposed facility does not comply with the Campus Master Plan. Regan added it is not yet known how the process for exceptions will be handled.

Classroom Proximity Analysis

Massey and Rhea presented a Classroom Proximity Analysis. Data from fall 2004 show that the average percentage of sections taught in a department's home building(s) range from 49% in Liberal Arts to 100% in the Bush School. The average number of buildings used by departments to teach classes ranges from one for the Bush School to 11.2 for Liberal Arts. So for departments that teach many service courses, the classrooms are more dispersed. Home location for a

department is defined as housing the department head office in the building, having a significant cluster of faculty offices in the building, or if a building is directly adjacent to one of the previously described buildings and is commonly used by that department for classes.

Regan suggested that the study separate regular classrooms from classroom laboratories and note which classrooms are scheduled by the Registrar and which ones are scheduled by the department. Perry added it would be helpful to also have a breakdown of classrooms used primarily by freshmen and sophomore students, and junior and senior students, as there may be more dispersion in the lower level classes.

An electronic version of the study will be accessible on the Facilities Coordination web site. Perry asked Massey to send the Academic Program Council an e-mail to let them know further analysis will be done to the study, based on feedback from CBE, and the updated study will be available after Thanksgiving.

#### Engineering and Physics

Perry, Sippial, Miller, Bennett and Newton met recently to discuss progress on locating approximately 35,000 SF of space for use by Engineering. Several ideas were discussed including using renovated Graphics space, Centeq, Cain A wing and 1111 Research Park. Newton will submit recommendations for the Council's approval.

Sippial stated that Graphic Services will be able to provide 35 offices for faculty swing space once completed in September, 2006. He will present his recommendations on this space at a future CBE meeting.

Perry asked Davila if part of the Agricultural Economics space in Blocker could be used temporarily (one or two years) to accommodate moves associated with faculty reinvestment, and if so, the square footage. Ag Eco could move to renovated Graphics space until the Mitchell Building is complete, and then return to Blocker.

#### Demolition of College Avenue Apartments

Parrott stated that Residence Life has decided to delay demolition of the current University Apartments for about two years. However, this will not affect the timeline of construction of the new residences.

#### Showers in Buildings

Perry will check with Health and Kinesiology about use of showers at G. Rollie White for bicyclists.

#### Other Business

- The Council was given a copy of a memo Elsa Murano sent to Joe Newton regarding the Life Sciences Building recommendation that the Research Environment Council (REC) sent to Dick Ewing and Bill Perry. Perry asked Regan to please relay at the next Council of Deans meeting that time is of the essence in the Council of Deans making recommendations to Ewing and him regarding the REC's recommendations.

- Faculty Senate has suggested a Parking representative attend the CBE meetings. Floyd noted that Parking is kept informed of actions that could affect their operations and a Parking representative is a member of the CFPC technical subcommittee. Perry noted that the Senior Vice President for Finance is represented on the CBE and the representative can inform the Director of Transportation Services of all CBE actions relating to transportation.
- Karan Watson recently gave a report on the number of faculty hired in the Faculty Reinvestment program and Perry asked the Council if they would be interested in hearing the presentation. The Council agreed that they would. Regan said a survey of motivating factors for candidates accepting and declining faculty positions would be useful. Perry will pose that request to Watson at her presentation.
- Representatives from the University, the Texas A&M University System and Perkins + Will have begun the first of three days of meetings regarding the Life Sciences building. Sippial noted this will be the first System facility to be LEED certified and is the largest single project at Texas A&M. It was suggested the Council endorse the master plan's recommendation that all buildings be LEED certified, and in addition, state that the University will commit 1% of the facility's budget toward the certification. Sippial will draft a motion for the Council to consider.
- Wixson asked about the plans for the land surrounding Bonfire Memorial. A small museum which could house some memorabilia has been discussed. However, funds are not currently available. Sippial has reminded student leaders about this project in the event a class is interested in making a donation as part of their class gift to the University. Perry added that at the end of the fall 2005 semester, the Bonfire artifacts will be moved from the Anthropology Building to University Archives and will be accessible to the public. An exhibit area near the Bonfire Memorial would serve for only a portion of the artifacts.