

**Council Chairs Meeting**  
**June 21, 2006**

**Present: Colleen Cook, Joe Newton, Bill Perry, David Prior, Nancy Sawtelle, and Jerry Strawser**

- **Council on the Built Environment**

- CBE has approved the Vice President for Student Affairs initiating a facility study of the MSC and the University Center Complex. The chosen firm would make recommendations on how to proceed with design and construction for the facilities based on current and future uses. This is a study only, and does not involve any construction or renovation. The study will be funded from student fees.
- CBE has approved the Commandant initiating a study of the Corps dorms to determine options for renovations and cost estimates. The cost of the study will be funded by the Commandant's office.
- CBE has approved in concept a proposal from Transportation Services to convert the former varsity tennis courts, located near the Texas A&M Foundation, into a 180 space parking lot. The Foundation supports this move and will help pay for the conversion. The proposal is being reviewed by the CFPC technical subcommittee.
- CBE has approved a brick pavers project in the Education Plaza as part of a fundraising effort the College of Education
- Agriculture has amended their previous proposal for the NMR facility and now proposes to authorize FP&C to add three floors, instead of two, with \$2 million in financing arranged through System Treasury Services, which would be repaid by Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. The offer is contingent upon the University providing funds to finish out the second and third floors, estimated to be \$1,800,000. The Council can provide \$600,000 toward completion of the second floor lab space, and will try to identify funds to finish out shelled lab space on the third floor.
- CBE approved Agriculture using \$818,000 previously allocated for renovations to the Agronomy Field Lab to be used instead for a pre-engineered metal facility to be used for soil testing and plan diagnostic lab purposes. The building will be located near another metal building north of F&B Road.
- Student Affairs has been asked to look at other sites for the University Apartments. Instead of rebuilding in the current apartment area, other sites consider for Phase 1 (500 units) are the nearby Horticulture Gardens area, Physical Plant's service area (greenhouse, landscaping and recycling services), and the 17 acres adjacent to those two areas. CFPC technical subcommittee will review and determine cost estimates for infrastructure that may be needed, as well as replacement costs of services that may be relocated.
- The mixed use development project is still being considered and discussions are ongoing with University representatives and several members of the Board of Regents.
- The CBE toured the General Services Complex on Wednesday, June 21.

- **Education Council**

- The Faculty Senate is working on the recommendations from the Strawser task force.

- The Education Council has begun to consider the Murano task force report and is prioritizing the recommendations.
- The Education Council continues to evaluate the benefits to education resulting from the Faculty Reinvestment Program.
- The Education Council continues to review the Vision 2020 goals as they relate to education.
  
- **Finance Council**
  - The Finance Council is evaluating the use of consultants.
  - Prior asked the Finance Council to flesh-out its comments on the Vision 2020 advisory council report.
  - Finance Council asked Prior and Gates would be open to reconsidering the need for responsibility centered management in light of the decision to increase enrollment and implement a general studies degree.
  
- **Research Council**
  - The Research Council is working with the VPR, the System, and the College Station-based System components to clarify issues with the new intellectual property and commercialization policy.
  - Discussions about research administration continue.
  - Discussions about hiring research staff continue.
  - The Research Council response to the Vision 2020 advisory council report will be submitted to the Provost in the next few weeks.