



Physical Environment Committee Minutes

May 13, 2014
8:15am – 9:15am
Lincoln Building Conference Room

MEETING CALLED BY	Ted Curtis & Harvey Sterns – Co-Conveners
TYPE OF MEETING	University Council Committee Meeting
FACILITATORS	Ted Curtis & Harvey Sterns – Co-Conveners
NOTES SUBMITTED BY:	Shelly Keller
ABSENT	Zac Kisor Denise Montanari
ATTENDEES	Stewart Blessing Ted Curtis – Co-Convener Mark Dvorak Chuck Kunsman Ralph Morrone Ann Hassenpflug – Vice Chair Julie Hykes Shelly Keller - Secretary Harvey Sterns – Co-Convener Shawn Stevens William Thelin Rachel Thut Elizabeth Reilly
INVITED GUESTS	Ralph Morrone

Agenda topics

MINUTE APPROVAL

DISCUSSION	Approval of the 4-15-14 minutes was requested.
CONCLUSIONS	Julie made a motion to approve the minutes and Chuck seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor.

MEETING ITEMS

Introductions: To introduce new members to current members.

Elections:

Chair:

- Ted made a nomination for Harvey to continue as chair. Shelly seconded the motion. With no other recommendations the nominations were closed.
- All in attendance were in favor of Harvey serving as chair for the next year.

Vice Chair:

- Harvey made a nomination for Ann to continue as vice chair. Bill seconded the motion. With no other recommendations the nominations were closed.
- All in attendance were in favor of Ann serving as vice chair for the next year.

Secretary:

- Ted made a nomination for Shelly to continue as secretary. Shawn seconded the motion. With no other recommendations the nominations were closed.
- All in attendance were in favor of Shelly serving as secretary for the next year.

Libraries Discussion:

- It was noted that no decisions on library will be made for the next year. Two issues are reviewing the Sasaki Plans and waiting for the new President to be in place.
- Bierce Library Update- new feeds are needed because the old ones have deteriorated. All the breakdowns on the central boilers we found were stresses on the lines from the numerous Akron Energy shutdowns we had experienced in the past. Ralph explained they are trying to add tunnels to help with putting eyes on these pipes in the future. The piping at JAR and ONAT is only 20-30 years old and we should expect to achieve a greater lifespan. The surface at the library site will have improvements as well. Large masonry walls will be opened up and brought to ground level. The project is four weeks away from tunnel sections being installed. The plans are to start seeding by the 1st of July. This will create a vista that will complement the glass facade on the south side of the Library proposed by our guide plan from Sasaki.
- Liz added that it makes sense to keep talking about this plan on the library as these issues take time.
- The main complaint from students is the fear of losing the study space.
- Liz explained they are doing the same study with the Law School
- Julie stated she looked at change.org where the petition against losing the Auburn Science Library is located. She said, to date, there are 500 signatures and the main comments noted that Bierce is not quiet.
- Rachel advised that as long as students have their space they will be happy. They don't need most of the books housed in the Science Library.
- Liz advised that as a committee it should be our goal to learn how much space is needed to be used for quiet study? What do the students want and need and how much usage will they have? We need to observe what the students study and how they study.
- Ted stated there are needs for privacy rooms, which will have all glass walls. This will help to make sure there are no unwanted issues with closed rooms.
- Ralph added that all glass windows/walls can provide white board space. He has seen where students write equations out on glass and it looks very cool.
- Liz suggested possibly creating model rooms and the students could "try them out".
- Ted mentioned that in a graduate exit survey, one student stated that it was hard to find study space on campus.
- Rachel mentioned that she feels Bierce's first floor could be used better.
- Ted identified that the glass facade addition at Bierce will also help with lighting.
- Julie agreed and added that one complaint on change.org was that it was too dark at Bierce.

Survey:

It was decided to send this survey to every part time and full time faculty member and ask them to complete the survey for each room they taught in during the spring semester.

As a group it was decided to make the following changes:

- Address the occupancy question by clarifying desired occupancy vs. code occupancy.
- #4 - What would your desired occupancy for this room be vs. code occupancy?
- #18 - spell out abbreviations
- #18 - combined this with question #14
- Add noise questions - HVAC, mechanical issues and outside noises
- Add a section for comments for each question

Bill made a motion to accept the survey with the agreed upon changes and distribute to all part time and full time faculty members. Stewart seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Central Hower/Zook Update:

Ted advised the plans are being advertised to the interim dean who will approve the program for Zook, then it will be in the

architect's hands. He predicts mid to late summer; we should start seeing schematic drawings. Harvey advised this plan is not meeting the normal level of faculty involvement.

Comment [s1]: Check w/Planning

Ann read a memo that was sent to faculty on 5/12/14 from the Dean of Education and discussed looking at drawings. Ted stated that faculty opinions help form those drawings. Ann stated another issue from college council is there is not a committee to deal with the renovations of Zook Hall. Ann advised she cited the Org Chart to council. Ralph explained to Ann that it does sound like they are getting their steps in order and trying to follow the Org Chart, which is good. Central Hower drawings are being advertised for bids for the fall for swing space. Ann asked if the move will take place in August. A deadline date was given of today to have our offices packed up but many faculty are still teaching and working out of books. Suggestions were made to use portfolios on wheels or attaché cases and also that swing space is not permanent space or always ideal space but needed to complete the renovations on the old space.

Tennis Courts Update:

The courts are almost completed. They are located on the old Buchtel Field. There were a few small glitches such as gravel disagreements and light fixtures that held the project up for a month.

Solar Array :

The Solar Array is up and running and they are still troubleshooting some issues. This project has been signed off on as up and working. Currently the array is creating 800kw of green power, which is 60 homes worth of power. This is the largest roof solar array in state of Ohio. Esthetically the array has not impacted the field house structure.

Performance Contract:

- 40% of the campus has the new lighting; there were a lot of complaints the first day. This was mainly because they were complete in some places and not in others. Nothing much since then.
- Water retro fits have been installed in all toilets, sinks and fountains.
- 20-30% of the chiller plant at PFOC is complete.
- The animal lab at Auburn Science work will continue through the summer.
- We are already starting to see electric bills going down.
- Huge machines we have affectionately called minions have been installed in the Physical Plant. They are 30ft tall yellow tanks that sit side by side. They are a chilling unit that creates 99.9% energy savings
- 331 projects total. We are 6 months into the 36 month project.
- LED lighting, walkway, parking lot and deck exterior lighting will be the next big projects.

Chuck made a motion to end the meeting and Bill seconded it.

Scheduled Meetings:

- June 17, 2014 - **8:15am** (note time change)
- July 8, 2014 - **8:15am** (note time change)