

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING
February 2, 2012 UNION 205 at 3:30 pm

Present: Blakeslee, Burenheide, Carlin, Condia, Graham, Lynn-Sherow, Reed, Soldan, Spriggs, Suh, and Watts

Absent: Cates, Cauble, Smith

Guests and visitors: Ben Champion, Katie Kingery-Page

1. Bob Condia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm
2. The December 1, 2011 minutes stood approved as submitted.
3. Visitor: Ben Champion on KSU's Sustainability Programs
Condia thanked Champion for visiting FSCOUP. Champion passed out a handout with several examples of peer institutions; also ones that appear as we may like to be in future years. He directed committee members to the section on NC State and pointed out it has some good definitions regarding sustainability. Condia asked who defines what sustainability means at KSU. Chapman commented that in concert with the Master Plan a sustainability commission or committee could perhaps be created and maintained here and Kansas State. The Sustainability Report was done prior to new administration and since that time it hasn't had a lot of movement. Discussion continued about what level, internally, these other schools have with regard to their sustainability practices. A good report that is clear and well defined can create a more powerful impact and give credence to action. Campus Development: discussed LEED building certification as one measurement factor. Should there be a policy attached to planning that FSCOUP should initiate? Condia related a brief history of what impact the Master Plan has had over the years. After discussion it was the consensus of the committee that Condia will talk about how the Master Plan will be administered with Ayers Saint Gross team members. Champion talked a little bit about the four elements that are involved in sustainability and its definition: buildings – landscape – circulation patterns – infrastructure. Long-term problems for institutions, private or public, are keeping systems running, the cost of energy, as well as others. Kingery-Page discussed the importance of *designed* open space. Lynn-Sherow mentioned cultural sustainability as well. Feeding the information to the right people is vital. Condia reminded members of the Ayers Saint Gross Master Plan Sessions and a mentioned a particular individual who was hired; giving feedback to them will be important. Lynn-Sherow gave the example of using Geo-thermal systems and how beneficial that can be. Graham mentioned the open forum last night for the Master Plan Sessions and several students spoke – mainly in behalf of environmental sustainability.
4. Reviews of FSCOUP participation in the Ayers Saint Gross, Master Plan Sessions: Jan 30 – Feb 2
Condia thanked committee members for attending these sessions. Spriggs reported that students spoke up about such things as parking as well as open spaces for students to hang out/study. He also mentioned the transportation route and circulation for students. Kingery-Page discussed a possible Arts District by McCain and the Beach Museum making it an area that really gives a feel for how Kansas State feels about art, culture, etc. Graham mentioned that transportation was discussed in every session he attended. He added that visiting professors and international students currently have difficulty getting around, and in coming years we'll have researchers and others working for NBAF which will create additional needs. We need to strategically plan for this kind of additional personnel. Lynn-Sherow mentioned a certain company in whose campus you could not drive. There were parking lots at the outskirts and individuals were transported to campus via bus routes and in addition to the benefits they expected, it brought others as well. Circulation and infrastructure will continue to be topics of conversation. Discussion ensued around building stimulating environments that help elicit creative thinking and ideas. Condia noted that friendly criticism is a motivator. Lynn-Sherow asked

where are our “intellectual commons”? This question lead into the committee’s next topic: a KSU faculty club, etc.

5. A very first conceptual spin on the 2025 Plan’s suggestion for a Faculty Club
It was pointed out the students have a “Student Union” but faculty have nowhere to exchange ideas. A faculty commons was suggested. Other institutions were noted for having these. Having more than just a coffee shop is desirable and also something to serve more than just one unit’s faculty. Honey mentioned one challenge is when you create open spaces students begin to take over, and you want them to... but then it is more difficult for just faculty to spend time there. Condia mentioned an example was in San Diego at UCSD’s Neuroscience facility. It was required of them to go to lunch with others and this was recognized as being beneficial. Creation of something here would need to have enough horsepower to get people out of the mold they’re in. Kingery-Page mentioned that perhaps a space could be fully open, but maintain a different tone for faculty, somewhere that also felt more like you could linger rather than an “eat and run” sort of atmosphere. Condia noted that in face of salary reduction and other issues, having a space such as this would help with culture and continue to give Kansas State that “something else” that continues to attract quality faculty members. Carlin also pointed to partnerships and mentioned NBAF and such things as child care. There are opportunities that have not even been discussed. Graham again directed attention to the traffic increase that will occur due to NBAF, and visitors that will come. There are no crosswalks on Kimball Ave. near the campus. Kingery-Page commented she hopes planning individuals will think about the future of how Manhattan should/could look. Do we want our city to have a look and feel like that of Houston or Portland? Condia mentioned a saying he has remembered over the years: “Everything changes: Everything is connected: Pay attention.” (Poet Jane Hirshfield)
6. Any Other Business – New or Old?
Condia reminded colleagues to take back information to their colleges and units the information from Ayers Saint Gross Master Plan Sessions. They will be back in three weeks and there is a portal for comments which go straight to Ayers Saint Gross.

Next meeting we will discuss the possibility of a sustainability policy.

Honey mentioned that Ayers Saint Gross is bound to have information on other universities faculty commons and whether they have these. Also Carlin mentioned graduate students also feel they have nowhere also so perhaps they could be combined.

7. The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 1, 2012, union room 205 at 3:30 pm