

MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING

February 7, 2013, union room 204 at 3:30 pm

Present: Barbara Anderson, Karen Blakeslee, Lynn Carlin, Bob Condia (chair), John Devore, Diana Farmer, Steven Graham, Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, Drew Smith, Nate Spriggs, Esther Swilley, Tom Vontz, and Mark Weiss

Absent: Brad Burenheide, Heather Reed

Guest: Grant Hill

Visitor: Derek Jackson, Director - Department of Housing & Dining.

1. Bob Condia, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.
2. The December 6, 2012 minutes were approved as submitted.
3. Discussion with our Derek Jackson about Housing and Dining: present and future; then how might we proceed on a *Faculty Club \ Intellectual Commons*.

Condia welcomed Derek and thanked him for taking time to visit with FSCOUP members. Housing and Dining has their Ayers Saint Gross Plan available. Jackson feels his role in housing and dining is really to help others with their needs; whether those are undergrads, graduate, or non-traditional students. As K-state has grown and continues to grow, it becomes challenging to find adequate housing. The last few years there has been a deficit in housing. There is approximately 98 percent occupancy in the city; it is quite full. They have had Ayers Saint Gross do a master plan for them that is in its final phase and will be tied into the complete master plan for the university. Jackson noted that K-State's Housing and Dining benchmarks against about 300 other schools. In comparison with other schools, K-State has happy students overall. There is a long tradition of quality in their services. For example they have about 2,500 different recipes in the menu system for the dining halls. They serve approximately 10,000 meals a day. He briefly addressed the different retail options they have that serve the students as well as those on campus, such as the Derby bakery and small convenient stores in a couple of the dining centers. He went over tentative renovation plans for Marlatt and Goodnow halls. Those two halls house many engineering and architecture students. Providing a little background, he commented that engineering students tend to come back and study in their rooms; however, architecture students come back for relaxation, etc. because they spend a majority of time in studios doing their work. They surveyed students and others to determine what their thoughts were for future use of those housing units. Right now we're short 450 beds and with projected growth, by 2025 it could be short by over 1,000. Space to develop buildings is limited and there is a desire to keep green space. Therefore, they're looking at parking lots for building space. This brings up the issue of transportation. They have buses running certain set routes and it is working; students are using it.

Analysis still needs to be made regarding whether Kramer Dining center should be torn down and rebuilt or whether it can be expanded and continue to function while renovations are made. He also talked about Derby Dining Center; reviewing possible options for its future.

Committee members asked about tunnels, walkways, or bridges for students; have those been considered for the future. Jackson responded that these have been discussed. At the beginning of the discussion he had noted many faculty have never been to the dining centers; committee members conversed about how to make this happen more. Another topic addressed was that a thousand freshman students do not live on campus each year due to various reasons, one of them being there are not enough beds to accommodate them. However, students living off campus are usually in less-than-desirable living conditions. Is there a way to make sure students are aware of situations that would not be the best for them? Right now Jackson makes off campus listings available to students when campus rooms are filled, but there are no differentiations made between listings as to whether one is better than another. Discussion ensued about living conditions for students who live off-campus. A few suggestions were offered as to how this may be addressed in the future. Safety in campus housing and energy efficiencies of new buildings or renovations were also discussed.

4. Carlin – report on the forming of a 2025 Task Force for the Common Theme of Sustainability: to be organized very soon to be charged in February?

Carlin updated committee members about the Sustainability Theme committee. The charge will be, in short, to complete a progress report on what has been accomplished since the last Sustainability report was done and then to take it out to 2025 with additional activities and measurable outcomes for intermediate and long-term goals. As a reminder, the set up for the committee will be representatives from student senate, classified senate, faculty senate, as well as other faculty and administrators. The request letter for nominations will go out on Monday to FSCOUP and others.

5. New Business – *Faculty Club?* (as required)

Condia gave a brief background regarding where this topic came from. In part, it came from the K-State 2025 planning sessions. FSCOUP had discussed it last year and decided it should be put back on the agenda for further movement. Committee members discussed what is needed and where. Is there anything available now that could be used? Again, certain units may have their own space to meet, but cross-discipline conversations need to be able to take place formally and informally and this is where a faculty club or intellectual commons would be of practical use. Members agree that food needs to be there; perhaps lunch options and a happy hour menu. Examples of events that could be held there would be a faculty award dinner; professional advisory board meetings; opening dinners for workshops, etc. Also, it could be used as a meeting place for interdisciplinary meetings, etc., serving as an intellectual commons. Condia has looked into the possibility of sending a survey out to the campus community asking for their input. Would they would be willing to pay some sort of a membership fee; what kinds of things would they view as needed or desired. Would FSCOUP be agreeable to putting this out from the committee? Consensus was that members were in favor of this. Members also discussed if there would be requirements for entry. For example, would you need to be a professor or associate professor, what about those with emeritus status? Many would appreciate a social organization for retired faculty. Conversation continued. Again, all were reminded this was part of the 2025 conversations and it may be possible a donor or donors would be willing to come forward for such a place as this.

Condia updated FSCOUP members on the Master Plan status.

Lynn-Sherow wanted to alert committee members and visitors regarding elections. A change is being instituted that would no longer allow state employees to run for political office. K-state faculty

member, Jim Sherow, would like to visit with Faculty Senate at a future meeting about his experiences as a faculty member of Kansas State University as well as his experience in public office.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2013, union room 205 at 3:30 pm. Discussion on the KSU master Plan implementation with Ruth A. Dyer, PhD, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Chair of the Master Plan Update Committee.