

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
Fresno, California 93740

Campus Planning Committee

Minutes

August 24, 2012

Members

Present: Deborah Adishian-Astone, Amy Armstrong, Robert Boyd, Rick Finden, Paul Halajian, Lisa Kao, John Kriebs, Toni Marchini, Arthur Montejano, Dennis Nef, Jan Parten, Cynthia Teniente-Matson, Richard Vaillancour, Bernard Vinovrski and Gary Wilson,

Absent: Charles Boyer and Patrick Newell,

Guests: Jose Diaz, Tom Gaffery, Toby Hasselgren (ZGF), Sean Kiernan (ASI), Ramakrishna Nunna, Lori Pardi and Lynn Williams

Meeting called to order at 1:36 p.m.

1. Approval of the August 24, 2012, agenda. It was MSC to approve the August 24, 2012, agenda.
2. Approval of the July 12, 2012, meeting minutes. It was MSC to approve the minutes of July 12, 2012.
3. Review Schematic Design - Jordan Research Center (*Informational*) - Astone/ZGF Architects

The Jordan Research Center was made possible as a result of a very generous \$29 million gift from the Jordan family where part of that gift was to build a dedicated research center. Zimmer Gunsul Frasca (ZGF) Architects is working to complete the schematics design phase for approval by the CSU Board of Trustees at their November 2012 meeting.

Ms. Astone shared that this has been a very exciting project and the team has been working very closely with the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (JCAST), Lyles College of Engineering, and the College of Science and Mathematics. It has been a collaborative process with input from a number of constituent groups including department chairs and faculty researchers.

The building's design is very flexible and intended to meet the research needs of the university for the next 15 to 20 years. The research labs are designed to facilitate research and provide faculty with access to state-of-the-art equipment for their research initiatives or research projects. The plan does not include dedicated faculty offices or administrative space.

The project site is on the southwest corner of Barstow and Woodrow Avenues where the existing feed mill and hay storage facilities are currently located. There is a plan to replace the hay storage needs in a decentralized manner at each unit and a new storage facility will be built adjacent to the Grad Lab.

Ms. Astone introduced Toby Hasselgren with ZGF, the architect selected for the Jordan Research Center project who walked the committee through the schedule and floor plan.

The building is three stories high for a total gross square footage of approximately 30,000 sq. ft., about 10,000 sq. ft. per floor. The facility has a very efficient layout with the bulk of it being labs,

15 percent dry labs, 14 percent wet labs, lab support and interaction space. The area will include a simple landscape strip with sidewalk, outdoor event space on the south end, and test gardens to showcase some of the program elements. The site plan does encroach upon the adjacent storm drainage basin which will be used as backfill. There will be limited parking available next to the facility.

The first floor includes a training/conference room, small kitchen facility and restrooms, and dry labs including: a sensory evaluation and tasting room, sensory evaluation prep room, flex modules, modern modeling lab, sensor lab and the building support space (mechanical rooms, elevator rooms, etc.). The second floor is stacked in a very similar fashion. All wet labs are along the northern edge. There are no walls within that space. This is a free flow space that can be modified if needed. The interaction space is off to the south end, support space to the eastern half of the building which also includes electrical rooms, restrooms and lab manager office. The third floor is very similar to the second floor and includes additional flex modules and an open lab landing. The only two labs that are enclosed right now for safety and security reasons are the pathology and entomology labs. Other than those two, all labs are essentially open space.

Mr. Hasselgren also presented the exterior elevations with views from the various angles. The main entrance will be on the west, but there will be an entry on the east side of the building as well. The exterior elevation includes an outdoor area that may be used for small events/activities.

Materials that will be used to do the face of the building include precast concrete. There might be an opportunity to infill some smooth panels at the top. They are also looking at trellises, fabric structures, etc. to provide shade with the understanding that bird control, maintenance and longevity of materials are of big concern to the university.

Ms. Astone mentioned that they had a preliminary meeting with Paul Halajian, the campus consulting architect and Rich Vaillancour, the campus landscape architect to get their input and reaction to the site layout, exterior skin materials, hardscape, and landscape. They provided some very good input and ZGF was able to incorporate some of the suggestions, especially in regards to the site orientation.

This is a significant building that will definitely enhance the aesthetics along Barstow Avenue especially with the landscape improvements that will be part of the project.

Mr. Kriebs requested additional details on the changes that will take place with the ponding basin and how this will affect access for the Equestrian unit. Ms. Astone stated that it will affect the area, but the footprint would remain the same. They will work together to figure out the best access point for Equestrian needs.

Ms. Kao enquired as to the ventilation that will be used for the two separate labs. Ms. Astone shared that ZGF has worked on a number of research facility projects. There has been a lot of discussion with faculty researchers and the mechanical and electrical engineering team on this project. ZGF and their lab consultant understand the unique HVAC design requirements with an open lab vs. closed lab layout.

Mr. Kiernan asked if there has been any conversation with students, specifically within the college of Ag in regards to this project. Ms. Astone shared that they just recently received the schematic design package and would begin sharing it with the faculty and students within the respective colleges. She is aware that Deans Nunna and Hoff have been discussing this building program with their respective colleges. Dean Boyer (not present at this meeting) would be able to provide additional details in regards to how communication about this project is occurring

with JCAST. Mr. Boyd added that this is a research facility, not a classroom, and is primarily for faculty who conduct research. Chair Matson added that the deans have taken into consideration graduate student research/projects and that this informational item would return to the committee for final approval.

Dr. Williams asked if there will be room for bike lanes on Barstow and Woodrow Avenues. Chair Matson commented that there are a couple of drawings that have been done for an expansion of Barstow Avenue. It is in the university's planning horizon and this facility lines up with that realignment; but, the bike lanes are not part of this project. The university is trying to pick-up infrastructure improvements where possible and there are others "asks" out for the Barstow Avenue reconstruction which is critical.

Dr. Williams requested additional clarification of the finances of the project. Ms. Astone explained that the project is being burdened with a higher percentage of utility infrastructure cost because of the lack of existing capacity in the central plant that is needed to serve this building, given that the central plant expansion project did not get funded through the State capital outlay process. She further explained some of the details like upgrading of well, sewer lift stations, etc. that have added cost to this project. However, the campus is in the process of validating the utility infrastructure costs since some of the elements are being designed to determine a better cost for these improvements. The goal is to reduce that burden to this project or look at other partnership opportunities to help fund it. Dean Boyer is involved in this process and aware of the goal in trying to minimize impact as much as possible. However, the infrastructure is necessary to support this project.

Mr. Boyd explained that the university is at max electrical capacity and any project that we bring from now on is going to have a larger site development cost because we have to bring outside utilities to the site. Some of the recent buildings have been able to capitalize on recent infrastructure improvements as is the case with the Gibson Farm Market. This building is taking advantage of the Campus Pointe utilities that were put in at Chestnut. Otherwise, that project would have had a similar burden. The swimming pool and faculty office lab were able to feed through the softball stadium. Chair Matson added that the number was not exaggerated. It is close to the \$6 million figure fully loaded, but cut backs and focusing on absolute needs got us to the \$4.8 million figure Ms. Astone provided. Ms. Astone further added that the university tried to secure a grant from the EDA (twice) but unfortunately our efforts were not successful.

4. Temporary Patrick Dougherty installation (*Informational*) – Boyd

Mr. Boyd provided a quick introduction on the Patrick Dougherty art project. It is a temporary art installation and will be on campus for approximately one year. The piece will be located on a grassy mound on the west side of the Conley Art Building. Currently, there is a beam there that was part of an art project many years ago. Dr. Diaz contacted the artist and he (the artist) did not have any concerns with us removing the beam.

Dr. Diaz shared that the project was funded by a new grant from the Central Valley Foundation to the Center for Creativity and the Arts (CCA) at Fresno State. The gift will support a series of coordinated exhibitions and public events around the theme of consumption and environmental sustainability. The goal is to interface with that theme through the arts, using the arts to spotlight and inspire discussion, reflection and examination of all the issues surrounding that particular theme.

Dr. Diaz added that we were very fortunate to attract this sort of funding and be able to bring Patrick Dougherty to our community. He has created over 260 sculptures all over the world. Each piece is unique. Samples of his work can be found at stickwork.net.

The project has been approved by the Monumental Arts Subcommittee. It is a temporary sculpture and does not require action by this committee; therefore, it will only be presented as an informational item.

5. Politi Garden statues & murals (*Action*) – Gaffery

The conceptual design for the Politi Garden, which is located in the niche on the east end of the Henry Madden Library between the two wings, was previously approved by this committee with the understanding that additional details on the statues and murals would return to Campus Planning for approval once funding was secured. Mr. Gaffery reported that the Nixon Center has now secured the additional funding necessary to add the artwork to the garden and now seeks the committee's approval on the final piece of the project.

The plan is to cast in bronze replica statues that Mr. Politi designed as well as lay replica terracotta mosaic tiles out of the immediate walkway next to the fountain.

The Monumental Arts Subcommittee reviewed and approved the design and further suggested having faculty and students perform the casting in lieu of a third party as sort of practicum style class. The suggestion was delivered back to the Arne Nixon Center for consideration.

Ms. Astone recommended approval of the plan as it is consistent with the plan that was developed by Robert Boro Landscape Architect for this project. Mr. Finden seconded. The motion carried without opposition or abstention.

6. New Bike/Pedestrian Path from Chestnut to Woodrow Avenues (Informational)
Armstrong/Astone

Part of the Campus Master Plan calls for a walkway to connect the east and west ends of the campus. As part of the plan, Ms. Armstrong shared a plan that would connect Woodrow and Chestnut Avenues on the east end leading over to Campus Pointe and line up with the new walkway that was just put in place on Parking Lots A and J.

In order to further support pedestrian and bike travel through campus, this pathway will give people walking from Campus Pointe to the campus a designated safe path to travel. The university consulted with Alan Mok Engineering and Robert Boro Landscape Architect as to what kind of landscaping can be done for this area, while keeping/using everything that is already in place (existing trees and roadways). The plan includes:

- Adding grates around the trees making the area ADA accessible and then connecting the sidewalk so as to eliminate the need to change the fence line for the ponding basin or the roadway.
- Adding a crosswalk on the north and south side of the roundabout to accommodate those coming from Chardonnay Avenue
- Adding a crosswalk right across Bulldog Lane on the west side of the roundabout to allow pedestrians to cross south. Currently there is one pedestrian crossing on the south side of the roundabout and a lot of the foot traffic is coming from the north side from the Palazzo Apartments.

- Installing additional signage, similar to what is used on the bike and pedestrian crosswalk on Peach Avenue between Alluvial and Nees. The recommendation is have a total of three signs on each side, northbound and southbound, two as you come up to the roundabout and the third one on what is called the pork-chop of the roundabout. The signage is very visible and measures 36 x 36”.

The hope is that the additional signage and crosswalk upgrades will make the area more visible to vehicles traveling through and alert them to the interaction that may take place with pedestrians and bicyclist so as to encourage them to lower their speed and drive though more carefully.

Ms. Astone added that Chestnut Avenue is a public road that requires plan check by the City of Fresno; therefore, Alan Mok is consulting and coordinating with Scott Mozier of the City of Fresno on this project. The City is very supportive of the enhancements that will take place on Chestnut.

There was additional discussion regarding the path(s) of travel students are using on this end of campus. An effort has been made to educate and encourage students to use the designate crosswalk on Matoian; but that is not what they are doing. The plan is to provide a safe path of travel to get students onto campus property, meet all the ADA requirements and enhance the landscaping in this area.

Ms. Parten requested a presentation to the President’s Committee on Disabilities. Ms. Armstrong agreed and will present at their next meeting.

7. CPC and Subcommittees Charge and Structure (Informational) – Matson

The recommendation to revisit the Campus Planning Committee’s charge and structure was first presented to this group in July 2012. Chair Matson distributed five documents for the committee’s review. The documents included redline suggestions to charges for the Campus Planning Committee and its four subcommittees. The need to review the committee’s charges and structures came as a result of:

- A difficulty in filling current vacancies/seats within Campus Planning and its subcommittees;
- Challenges in convening the group(s) due to the impacted schedules of current members;
- Changes in campus staffing where the positions stated in the charter no longer exist or is vacant, as is the case with the Arboretum Chair and CPC’s FACEL representative;
- A desire to expand the role of the committee so that it is more inclusive in its service to the campus, as is the case with Peace Garden & Monumental Arts and Landscape & Grounds subcommittees;
- A desire to streamline the process so that items reach Campus Planning in a more expeditious fashion; and
- An opportunity to add new expertise, discipline or skill set to the committee’s composition.

The Campus Planning Committee charge was last updated in 2009. The primary recommendations in this update reference the Monumental Arts and the Arboretum Subcommittees.

The Peace Garden & Monumental Arts Subcommittee is a new committee that would replace the Monumental Arts Subcommittee as was discussed some time ago at Campus Planning. There is a policy in place but it has not been implemented. Mr. Boyd and Mr. Gaffery have addressed

outstanding items within the Monumental Arts Subcommittee with the intent of closing these items out so that the group could move forward to the new charge and structure.

The Landscape and Grounds Subcommittee which would replace the Arboretum Subcommittee is intended to look at the broader perspective of the campus grounds. This includes everything within landscaping and grounds and not just the arboretum which does not include the entire campus. The new structure also allows more flexibility. The university has not had a full-time dedicated grounds manager in the last three years. This position is currently listed as the designated chair for this committee. This charge was also revised so that it is more in line with the Campus Master Plan which calls for additional review of our outdoor green spaces.

There was also discussion on the recommendations to the Traffic & Safety Subcommittee and the Subcommittee on Campus Sustainability. Chair Matson asked the members to review the documents in detail and provide their remarks and suggestions. These were the recommendations and concerns expressed during the meeting:

- Reducing the membership throughout the committees. There are too many members listed for each committee; however, limiting the membership might restrict representation
- Considerable amount of duplication in membership throughout the committees, specifically with the seats designated for Facilities Management personnel
- Streamlining some of the subcommittees might help expedite the items through the approval process
- Extending the terms to three-years, except for students; however this might also discourage volunteerism.
- Making designations/appointments more flexible so as to allow for transition and changes when necessary
- Eliminating the requirement that each subcommittee Chair be a member of CPC, so as to provide an opportunity for engaged members to lead the group and then report to CPC. This would also help alleviate some of the demand on Facilities Management staff
- Eliminating some of the subcommittees and bringing items directly to Campus Planning. CPC is well represented and most of the projects have a landscape and grounds component to them that is already discussed in this forum. Chair Matson cautioned and expressed the added responsibility for its members to make certain that the work gets done in this (CPC) group and to ensure that each member does his/her job in communicating back to our constituents.
- Expanding CPC to include a representative from each college.
- Eliminating subcommittees cuts down on opportunities for junior faculty to show their mettle in terms of tenure, retention and promotion.
- The proliferation of committees presents a concern because there are service needs that are not being met throughout the campus.
- Revisit protocol in regards to taking action on an item, especially if it has been reviewed by a subcommittee.

Chair Matson reported that she would be presenting the item to the Academic Senate Executive Committee next week and looked forward to their comments and perspective. This item will return to CPC for additional discussion and potential action.

8. Other Business

None

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.