

University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Academic Planning Committee (APC)

Approved Minutes
November 6, 2013

Members Present

Stephen Lahey, Chair
Leslie Delserone
Jacob Friefeld
Mike Hoffman

Libby Jones
Martha McCollough
Jack Morris
William Nunez

Linda Shipley
Josh Waltjer
Ellen Weissinger

Members Absent

Archie Clutter
Ronnie Green
Gerard Harbison

Prem S. Paul
Donde Plowman

Jamie Radcliffe
Patrick Shea

Others Attending

Nancy Busch, Dean, University Libraries
Margaret Miller, Manager, FM&P Facilities Plan and Construction
Lance Perez, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
Steven Waller, Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Roger Terry, Program Director, Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Mark Balschweid, Department Head, Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication
Ron Yoder, Associate Vice Chancellor, Office of Vice President/Vice Chancellor, on behalf of Ronnie Green

Lahey stated a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Lahey welcomed guests Nancy Busch, Margaret Miller, Steven Waller, and Roger Terry, who were present for questions, if needed. He noted Mark Balschweid would be in attendance later in this meeting and also welcomed Lance Perez.

Approval of October 16, 2013 Minutes

Approval of the Minutes of electronic votes on October 16, 2013 was moved by Morris and seconded by Delserone.

Lahey asked if there were any questions, comments or revisions and there were none. The Minutes were approved without dissent.

Action Item: Project Initiation Request for Love North Learning Commons

Lahey yielded the floor to Nunez, as subcommittee chair, to introduce this agenda item. Nunez thanked Lahey and noted the Project Initiation Request (PIR) for the Love North Learning Commons was in each member packet distributed via email. [attached to permanent record] He stated Jones, Friefeld and Morris were the other members on this subcommittee. He informed membership the subcommittee had met with Dean Busch and Manager Miller last week who gave the subcommittee an overview of the project. He said this project was identified as a catalyst project through the Master

Planning process by the architecture and planning firm, Sasaki Associates. The Love North Learning Commons was embraced at all levels of the campus during the Master Planning Process and the subcommittee was pleased to see it moving forward. He indicated the master plan has been approved by the Board of Regents and the plan is now active. He said this project is scheduled to go before the Board of Regents in January 2014.

Nunez said the PIR subcommittee recommends APC approval of the Project Initiation Request for development of a Learning Commons on the first floor of Love North and introduced the motion to do so. As a motion from a subcommittee, no second is required. [Hoffman arrived]

Nunez introduced Dean Busch who had a brief overview presentation to share with the committee. Busch thanked Nunez. [Shipley arrived]

Busch mentioned she had presented to the Faculty Senate yesterday. She continued by giving a brief background. She said this project grew out of the Campus Master Plan as Nunez had stated earlier. She explained in response to this document last spring a study was initiated led by Sasaki and the Omaha firm of Holland Basham Associates (HBA) envisioning renovating the first floor of Love North to be an open space to support student learning and collaboration. This space would also spill outside to redesigned spaces in Cather and Donaldson Gardens with new entrances on the east and west side and opening up the north entrance.

Busch stated the proposed Learning Commons will offer a variety of spaces including technology rich spaces to work and socialize; shops for coffee and snacks; and a 200-seat digital learning center that would replace the 60-seat testing center in Burnett. She said the first floor of Love North currently houses stacks of books and other print materials so these collections will have to be relocated which will require renting a satellite space equivalent to or greater than the size Love North first floor plan. She added there will be a delivery service for requested materials and mentioned Interlibrary Loan services and participation in consortia's including Committee of Institutional Cooperation Shared Print Repository will provide access to additional needed print materials. She informed Love North was constructed in the 1970's and told there is a dire need to upgrade HVAC and that the roof will be replaced this fall so at least Love North first floor will receive these necessary upgrades.

Busch presented the proposed renderings of a long-term plan, the concept designs, the landscape plan, and transforming the Link. [Yoder arrived]

Busch concluded her presentation and inquired if there were any questions concerning the presented slides before continuing with her address. Lahey asked for confirmation on where Archives and Special Collections will be housed. Busch replied Love North second floor has been identified as a potential location to house Archives and Special Collections, as well as the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities which is currently located in Love South; however this Center is growing and will require more space.

Busch indicated there have been conversations with faculty, staff, and students on how collections should be realigned in Love Library first floor when the Learning Commons is built. She commented these conversations have been fascinating as it has allowed an opportunity to help educate people about libraries and how over time libraries are always in the business of analyzing and relocating collections based on usage, what disciplines are coming and going, what courses are coming and going, what collections do we need to keep and where? She said this opportunity to have a Learning

Commons presents another opportunity to re-think where those collections need to be. She stated conversations with the disciplines have led the Library to the notion that materials from Love South, which are primarily federal documents, be moved to a rented satellite facility. She informed it is envisioned that this satellite facility will be viewed as a branch that is open to faculty, staff, and students as well as the general public in the aspect that federal documents are located there making this a federal repository. She concluded by stating the hope is that conversations will help us work through any issues on which materials needs to stay somewhere in the Love complex as well as satisfy any concerns for physical browsing of materials.

Lahey inquired if there were any questions, comments or discussion from membership.

Hoffman asked if there was any sense of how much usage there is in terms of how many people per month are getting items out of those areas now? Busch said there are circulation data and in-house data. She conveyed in 2005 the libraries overall circulation of print materials was a little over 400,000 items and this year was a little over 140,000 so that gives one a sense of the decline.

Hoffman inquired what currently is available for the students who would like a paper copy of electronic material. Busch said there is a print service for use in the library. She commented a lot of students now save a copy on their laptop to read.

Morris commented he had visited the University of Iowa last year and his sense is that a lot of Big 10 institutions are going in this direction of converting valuable library space into student center learning areas and asked if it was known how many institutions have gone this route. Busch replied most of our colleagues have some version of this in their spaces. She said the University of Iowa just this fall converted the first floor of their library.

Morris wondered if there was a negative impact on the research community. Busch said no, these areas are full of students. Morris referenced a petition recently circulated among faculty that commented about loss of access. He stated some years ago the biology library went through this and there was no issue with loss of access and wondered if there was a real issue with a loss of access with respect to the Humanities. Busch said there is a perceived issue. She expressed she believes that once the dust settles access will not be greatly affected. She said we are addressing these concerns with conversations with groups. [Perez left]

Lahey stated for the record a handout [attached to permanent record] was distributed to APC membership at this meeting concerning a petition from members of the faculty respectfully requesting administration to reconsider removal of books and print materials from Love Library North and from any other humanities libraries on campus to offsite access or storage. Lahey said the APC recognizes this petition of the faculty as well as the response to faculty from Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Weissinger.

McCullough stated concerns expressed to her by members of the faculty in history, modern languages and other departments, as described in the petition, were while most research is published in journals available in electronic format, many published journals, as well as books, are not available online. She commented she liked what was mentioned regarding virtual browsing. She remarked this might alleviate some concerns. Busch agreed and mentioned again the CIC's shared repository.

Lahey thanked Dean Busch and asked Manager Miller if she had anything to add. She replied no but would be happy to answer any questions.

Lahey inquired if there were any further questions, comments or discussion from membership.

With no further discussion, Lahey reminded endorsement of the subcommittee served as a motion and second and called for a vote. The APC voted, with one opposition, to approve the proposal to develop a Learning Commons on the first floor of Love North. Lahey thanked the subcommittee for their work and guests for attending the meeting and they thanked the APC. [Waltjer arrived] [Nunez left]

Conversation on C.Y. Thompson Library Renovation

Lahey asked Yoder for a brief outline on this proposed project.

Yoder stated the idea is to follow the concept of renovation of Love North Learning Commons. He said C.Y. Thompson sets in the center of East Campus and the proposed project will renovate approximately two-thirds of the building into an Academic/Learning Commons which will also house a computer testing center and a visitor center, and offer a variety of other spaces such as a coffee and snack bar. He said that landscapes around the perimeter of the building will be developed to allow activity flow in the adjacent plaza and garden areas. He informed this development activity had already begun. He shared discussions are currently being held on eventual East Campus housing in this general area; however, these conversations have not reached a conclusion. He asked Dean Busch or Dean Waller for any additional comments.

Busch commented there will still be very much a library presence in this facility. She remarked a wonderful way to refurbish a building that is in the heart of East Campus and believes it will be a very exciting space once renovated.

Miller added the building systems will also be replaced as they are nearly 50 years old and at the end of their useful lives. The building will also be brought into compliance with current ADA and building codes.

Morris remarked he had inquired before if there had been any thought for interactive classrooms in this facility but had not received an answer. He wondered if this had been discussed. Busch replied at this point it is not in the plans for C.Y. Thompson nor in the plan for the Learning Commons in Love North. She said we do recognize the need for these classrooms exist. Morris remarked in regards to the Love North Learning Commons there is a great need for a larger testing center. [Balschweid arrived]

Lahey inquired if there was a need for a testing center on East Campus. Yoder said yes, a smaller testing center already exists on East Campus. He added it is planned for the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program to also be housed in C.Y. Thompson Library. He expressed the goal is to make the library the hub of activity for the East Campus community.

Lahey inquired if there were any further questions, comments or discussion from membership. There was none. Lahey thanked Busch and Miller. They thanked APC membership. [Miller left]

Action Item: Change of Degree Name for the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Journalism

Lahey introduced the proposal and pointed out the proposal was in each member packet that was distributed via email. [attached to permanent record] He then asked guest Roger Terry to discuss the rationale of this agenda item.

Terry voiced we are excited for this opportunity. He explained in 2010 the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication was reviewed in accordance with the University's Academic Program Review requirements. He stated this proposal to change the name of the Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Journalism is in response to the review team's recommendation. He informed this proposed name change has been vetted through the appropriate groups and have determined this is the name that better communicates our program.

Weissinger observed this proposal has the support from the following colleges: Arts and Sciences, Education and Human Sciences, Engineering, and Journalism and Mass Communications

Approval of the proposal from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources for the name change of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Journalism to *Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Communication* was moved by McCollough and seconded by Jones.

Lahey inquired if there were any questions, comments or discussion from membership and there were none. He called for a vote. The APC voted unanimously to approve this proposal. Lahey thanked Waller, Terry and Balschweid for attending and they thanked the APC for its consideration. [Waller, Terry and Balschweid left]

Matters from Vice Chancellors - Academic Affairs, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), and Research and Economic Development

Lahey asked Weissinger if she had any matters to share. Weissinger mentioned that the Office of Academic Affairs had initiated an initiative for faculty hires. Jones inquired if start up fees were included in the initiative. Weissinger replied no, these fees are not included.

Lahey asked if there were any other comments, questions or discussion and there were none. He thanked Weissinger.

Lahey asked Yoder if he had any matters to share on behalf of IANR. Yoder mentioned the Rural Futures Conference concluded yesterday. He indicated this conference was a real success with more than 500 registered and conveyed there is a lot of enthusiasm from not only Nebraska organizations but across the United States and internationally. He said the idea that rural America has a real place in the economy and the society of the country in addressing having a healthy society and a healthy economy really is front and center with a lot of people.

Yoder told that the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack delivered the Heuermann Lecture at this conference. Yoder expressed he was very impressed with Vilsack in that he demonstrated his commitment to do whatever he can do in his position to help energize and reinvigorate rural America. He said he believes there will be a lot of opportunities across disciplines at UNL to be involved in the Rural Futures Institute and related programs. He mentioned Chuck Schroeder, the newly hired director of the Rural Futures Institute, also attended this conference and that he generated enthusiasm as well. He said Schroeder will assume his job December 1.

Lahey asked if there were any comments, questions or discussion and there were none. He thanked Yoder.

Other Business

Lahey indicated he had two items for Other Business.

Lahey said first was an update on upcoming 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 Academic Program Reviews (APR) that were listed on spreadsheets in each member packet distributed via email. [attached to permanent record] He said dates were undetermined on several APRs; however will need APC appointment eventually so please give thought to serving.

Lahey indicated, secondly, that on December 3 he will present APC's Annual Report to the Faculty Senate. He informed membership that he and Hoffman had met recently with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and one topic of conversation was partnering with them on a forum for non-tenure track faculty members informing them of what rights they may have on campus. He asked APC membership if this is a topic of conversation we are interesting in pursuing as well as conversation on adding a seat for a professor of practice and a seat for a research faculty member. He would like this forum to possibly occur in January. He asked APC membership to email him with any thoughts or questions and indicated this discussion would be an agenda item at the next APC meeting on November 20.

Lahey asked if there was other business and there was none.

There being no other business, Delserone moved and McCollough seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m. The next meeting of the Academic Planning Committee will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Campus Nebraska Union.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green
APC Coordinator