



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Facilities Development Committee
Minutes

Thursday, November 24, 2011
6-176, CCIS
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

ATTENDEES:

Colleen Skidmore – Chair, Andy Cheema, Sagar Lunawat, Don Hickey, Elisabeth Le, Debbie Feisst, Shannon O’Byrne, Phil Haswell, Matthew Li, Loren Kline, Ben Louie, Bart Becker, Ann Hodgson (Coordinator and Scribe)

PRESENTERS AND GUESTS:

Bart Becker, Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Ben Louie, University Architect (Facilities and Operations)
Colleen Skidmore, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic)
Hugh Warren, Executive Director, Operations and Maintenance (Facilities & Operations)

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC) Chair, Dr Colleen Skidmore, noted that Mr Don Hickey would assume the Acting Chair responsibilities for Agenda Item 5 (GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC) Learning Spaces Subcommittee (FDC LSS) Draft Report), enabling her to step out of the role as Chair, and lead the presentation and discussion of the report.

Motion: Kline/Le

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve the Agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Minutes of October 27, 2011

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Motion: Le/Kline

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve the Minutes of October 27, 2011.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Dr Skidmore opened the meeting by welcoming all committee members to the Faculty of Science Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (CCIS) building, and spoke positively of future opportunities

for FDC to host committee meetings in campus facilities, and to participate in guided tours of campus buildings and areas.

Dr Skidmore consulted with members in regards to appointing a Vice-Chair of the GFC Facilities Development Committee, noting that the Vice-Chair position is currently vacant. The Chair added that, in accordance to the GFC FDC committee terms of reference, an eligible candidate must be a faculty representative currently serving on FDC. All members responded favourably towards such an appointment, and spoke in support of the process. Dr Skidmore encouraged members who may be interested in nominating an eligible member, or in self-nominating, to contact her in the near future. To finalize this appointment, a recommendation from the Chair of FDC will go forward to GFC Executive Committee for consideration and approval.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Balmoral Repurposing - Exterior Design and Interior Space Allocation and Layout

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Bart Becker, Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations); Hugh Warren, Executive Director, Operations and Maintenance (Facilities & Operations)

Purpose of the Proposal: As part of the Design-Build Construction (DBC) process the contract team (Stuart Olson Dominion Construction) was required to submit renderings of the external look of facility to the University for review and input as well as a final interior space layout. The first draft of exterior renderings reviewed by: GFC Facilities Development Committee (GFC FDC), Facilities and Operations, Belgravia Community, Project Steering Committee (includes Alberta Health Services (AHS), Alberta Infrastructure (AI), Alberta Health and Wellness (AHW), Advanced Education and Technology (AET) and the University of Alberta (UofA).

Three options were presented to our internal and community consultation process. At the conclusion of these meetings a selection of a slightly modified option B, was the result. Option B will be further refined around the front entrance area. The interior space layout has to meet the requirements for AHS operations, University research operations, cGMP and CNSC regulatory approvals. The updated space layout has now been signed off by the individual user groups. Minor adjustments could be requested at a future date by the regulatory agencies. The space allocation % for the facility is: ERC 30.58%, Shared 34%, UA direct 22%, Shell space for future expansion for UA 12.48%

Discussion:

The Chair invited Mr Becker to introduce the report on the Balmoral Repurposing - Exterior Design and Interior Space Allocation and Layout. Mr Becker welcomed Mr Warren to join him in presenting the material to committee members. Aided by the support of a detailed PowerPoint presentation, Mr Warren extensively reviewed the Balmoral exterior and interior renderings (selected Option B) with FDC members, identifying the primary adjustments to be made to the exterior entrance canopy and to the exhaust fan housing (will include additional photovoltaic panels). Mr Warren also presented the interior layout drawings, illustrating the interior space allocations and designated areas.

Mr Warren received feedback and responded to committee questions, adding that the interior layouts and final designs of the structural vault are of top priority.

Motion: Hickey/Klines

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed Balmoral Repurposing - Exterior Design and Interior Space Allocation Layout (as set forth in Attachment 2) as the basis for further planning.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC) Learning Spaces Subcommittee (FDC LSS) Draft Report (June 27, 2011)

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenters: Colleen Skidmore, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic), Bart Becker, Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

Purpose of the Proposal: “Over the past 20 years, Facilities and Operations has been a leader in Canada in the development and identification of best practices and principles around how the institution constructs, repurposes and renovates facilities and spaces. As the campus has changed and evolved, principles and practices for the design and development of learning spaces have been periodically reviewed and refreshed by both the institution and government. These reviews involve a variety of processes like design charettes, peer reviews and literature reviews. However, despite the excellent work, the wider academic community has not been aware, for the most part, of the processes that were used in designing new spaces. There was increasing interest expressed within the wider campus community about the quality of institutional learning spaces and about the design processes used in the development of these spaces. Two standing committees of GFC, the Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE) and the Facilities Development Committee (FDC), agreed that the process for development of learning spaces should be reviewed. In 2010, the Chairs of FDC and CLE agreed that a subcommittee be created (the Learning Spaces Subcommittee) that would identify and enhance current processes to aid in the planning and design of formal and informal learning spaces across all campuses.” (Excerpted from the FDC Learning Spaces Subcommittee Report)

Discussion:

Acting Chair, Mr Don Hickey, invited Dr Colleen Skidmore to introduce the GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC) Learning Spaces Subcommittee (FDC LSS) Draft Report (June 27, 2011). Dr Skidmore welcomed Mr Bart Becker to assist her in the presentation. Mr Becker provided a synopsis of the history and key drivers of the significant review process, leading up to the establishment of the FDC subcommittee, and to the development of the learning spaces proposed report.

As part of the review’s consultation process, Dr Skidmore asked members of FDC for feedback and guidance, noting that large, multi-used learning spaces are the focus in this report. Dr Skidmore emphasized the value and significance of the comprehensive document, in guiding administrators through future planning, repurposing and renewing processes, and as such, contributing positively to the overall student quality and experience.

Mr Becker indicated that this document identifies gaps and challenges, and recommends strategies, adding that Facilities and Operations continues to collaborate with faculties and departments for implementation purposes, and in bringing awareness forward, through to design perspectives.

Dr Skidmore and Mr Becker responded to questions from members, and received positive feedback and support with respect to the document. Dr Skidmore thanked members for their comments, advising that the (FDC) Learning Spaces Subcommittee (FDC LSS) Draft Report is ready to follow a governance path, for discussion and information purposes, and will return to GFC FDC in final form, for endorsement. Through this consultative process, the final approval route will be determined.

6. Projects Update from the Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

There were no documents.

Presenter: Bart Becker, Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)

Purpose of the Proposal: For discussion/information.

Discussion:

Mr Becker provided a brief status report on a number of capital projects that are nearing completion or are currently in various stages of development, highlighting the:

- *Edmonton Clinic Health Academy (ECHA):* One third of the building has been populated; remaining two thirds of faculty/staff will be moved in by December 2011. Vice-Provost Health Science, Dr Jane Drummond, and her staff continue to work in partnership with “move-in” teams.
- *Dent/Pharmacy building:* Tenders for consultant services (architectural; structural engineering) will be determined by this year.
- *South Campus* Sector planning is ongoing (community consultations, focus groups, open houses); a general open house will be facilitated for late Winter (late February, 2012).
- *PAW Centre* Looking at a “mini-in-house” session to update and inform the community (Windsor park, and area), community residents will be invited to attend.
- *Garneau* A third meeting is being coordinated for early January with the U of A and Garneau community residents (LRDP Sector Plans 7 and 8).
- *CEB* Civil and Electrical Engineering Building will be formally re-named as the South Academic Building (SAB).
- *CME* Chemical and Materials Engineering (CME) Building Infill Structure will be formally re-named as the Innovation Centre for Engineering (ICE).

7. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Items Approved by the GFC Facilities Development Committee by E-Mail Ballots

No items to date.

9. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

No items to date.

CLOSING SESSION

The Chair, on behalf of the GFC Facilities Development Committee, expressed thanks and appreciation to Dean Gregory Taylor and his staff for providing the CCIS Facility tour, immediately following the meeting, for those members of FDC.

Dr Skidmore reminded members of plans to hold the February FDC committee meeting in the Edmonton Clinic Health Academy Building, including a special presentation and tour of the site. Dr Skidmore will contact Vice Provost (Health Sciences) Dr Jane Drummond, to invite her participation in this event. Facilities and Operations/Health Sciences Council staff will jointly organize the facility tour and meeting presentation (possibly including student-nursing representatives).

10. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.