

2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR-END REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY-WIDE FACILITIES COMMITTEE

This year the UWFC met seven times with an average attendance of nine members. This was the “Year of Endorsement.” We started the year endorsing the plans for renovating the University Center, and we ended the year endorsing the plans for a new multi-purpose athletic field. In between we endorsed the new Vehicle Parking procedures, and the new Use of Tobacco Products. It was a busy year!

Major tasks in terms of time and energy consumption were:

- Tobacco Usage Policy
- Campus Master Plan Update
- Vehicle Parking Policy with new procedures
- SGA Proposals for Repairs to the Pick-up ball Field, and new Advertising Sign boards.

Important but not major this year were:

- Building Safety: Meeting Needs of Persons with Disabilities. The Facilities Committee strongly supports this campus-wide committee getting together again to assess progress.
- Keeping up-to-date on repairs, construction, and renovation projects on campus, such as the concrete plaza between the Administration Building and the Sports Complex.
- Need for more bicycle racks, and a few all-weather storage lockers.
- New electrical generator was installed adjacent to the University Center, to provide emergency services for residential students in the event of a multiple day calamity such as the freeze in February 2004.

Discussion

The “new” Use of Tobacco Products Policy took up a major portion of the fall agenda. Given the UWFC’s role in creating “smoking entrances” as well as wrestling with enforcement of the 25 foot rule, was on all three fall meeting agendas. The Committee moved smartly ahead with contacting Building coordinators, creating request, and advisement forms, forming a sub-committee to meet with building staffs, and actually meeting with the Library Staff. In November, the voters of Ohio approved a new ban on smoking inside public places, and this in turn affected our work. Dr. Morris sent an email on December 6th to “suspend any actions” until we understand the legal implications.

The Campus Master Plan Update Committee was very active during the second year of its two year charge. Patric Leedom and Butch Kotcamp served as members of that committee. And the UWFC served as a “Constituent Group” to provide input. To that end, the UWFC met for two hours in October with Jim Butz. The Campus Master Plan was finalized and approved by the SSU BOT in April. Two projects to be immediately initiated are 1) new tennis courts to be built over near student housing, and 2) a multi-use athletic field.

Vehicle Parking Policy and Procedures. This policy and its procedures were originally created and approved in 1999. Independently, both Patric Leedom and UWFC, and Steve Donohue and the PARC saw the need to update the procedures. Steve Donohue and PARC did generate an

updated versions and the UWFC reviewed it, discussed the changes, discussed the removal of “precatory language”—wishful, beseeching, and ultimately approved and recommended the new procedures to Dr. Morris.

In September, Butch Kotcamp, Director of SSU Facilities and Planning, came before the UWFC to discuss plans for renovating the University Center and to request an endorsement on both the architect’s plans which include building a new dining room and a new kitchen for the over 600 students who now reside on campus, and an endorsement on levying a student fee of \$150 per semester to fund the project. The UWFC endorsed both.

In May, Butch Kotcamp came before the UWFC to request endorsement of the plans to build a new multi-purpose athletic field. This would entail using the site currently occupied by the large parking lot on the north side of Second Street; and using the current soccer field as a temporary site for parking. After much discussion the UWFC voted to endorse the plans.

All-in-all, it was a very productive year with several very dedicated committee members.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. Patric Leedom, Chair, University-Wide Facilities Committee