

Academic Professional Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting
February 12, 2009

Meeting Attendees:

APAC members: Jacqueline Berger, William S. Bike, Holly Burt, Kimberly Clark, Judith Cohen, Michael Crehan, Jennifer Czak, Adrien Davis, Jill Davis, Cathy Foley-DiVittorio, Karen Ein, Marietta Giovannelli, Rob Moranetz, Michael Moss, Jennifer Rowan, Booker Suggs

Guests: Robin Hersey, Cynthia Sanders

Master Planning Committee Guests: Fernando Howell, Dennis McCauley, Mary Lelik

The meeting was called to order at 12:34 p.m.

1. Minutes. The minutes of the January meeting were approved as corrected.
2. Guests: Master Planning Committee representatives were present to discuss the Master Plan.
 - a. Introduction: Master Plan is currently in Phase 1, data gathering and input from various groups on campus. The purpose of the Master Plan is to concentrate on connecting the campus from all sides, from an exterior point of view.
 - b. The questions posed during the discussion were:
 - What are the best features of UIC's physical environment?
 - What aspects of the UIC campus are unappealing?
 - What issues should be addressed in the new campus master plan?
 - What changes should be made to improve the experience of students, faculty, staff, patients, and visitors at UIC?
 - c. Please see attached summary for details of discussion
 - d. Email: planning@uic.edu
3. Report from the Chancellor's Office: none
4. Financial Report: none, due to time constraint

5. Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee reports
 - a. Communication:
 - i. Please send any information you would like to have added to this month's APAC Newsletter to Bill Bike. Jill Davis and Rob Moranetz will contribute a blurb about the "Hustle Up UH" event they participated in.
 - b. Building Community/Education:
 - i. Open House: Lee Bridges on April 21, 2009. Cathy Foley-DiVittorio mentioned that perhaps Tom Riley could be invited back in June or July.
6. Additional Reports
 - a. HR Representative: Julie Harris was not able to attend this meeting
7. Old business:
 - a. Due to time constraints, Rob Moranetz decided to skip the subcommittee reports and asked Mike Crehan to commence with the second reading of the proposed amendments to the APAC By-Laws
 - b. By-Laws Proposed Amendments. Michael Crehan summarized the work of the committee, which was based on the discussion at the retreat, with two key changes: allowing all APs to vote in the general election and making the UIC Senate Representatives members of APAC.
 - Proposed Amendment 1
After the second reading of the changes, Holly Burt moved to add "full time employment at UIC" to Proposed Amendment #1 to read: "A. APAC shall consist of 15 to 18 representatives elected at large who hold permanent or visiting Academic Professional appointments of 50% or more of full time employment at UIC (see Article III)." Kimberly Clark seconded. Discussion included that many visiting versus permanent APs and who we serve; that only those permanent APs with appointments of 50% or more may vote for the UIC Senate Representative; that there end up being two different electorates. After significant discussion, a hand vote was taken. For: 7, Opposed: 3, Abstain: 1. The motion fails.
 - Proposed Amendment 2
After the second reading of the changes, Holly Burt moved to open the topic for discussion, Rob Moranetz seconds. Discussion includes defining the APAC electorate and essentially splitting the electorate for APAC and Senate election processes. After significant discussion, Holly Burt called the vote to question, Bill Bike seconds. A hand vote was taken. For: 4, Opposed: 6, Abstain: 1. The motion fails.

- Proposed Amendment 3

After the second reading of the changes, Holly Burt moved to open the topic for discussion, Bill Bike seconds. The purpose of Amendment 3 is to include all 3 UIC Senate Representatives as official APAC members, with voting rights and all other responsibilities that go with the membership. After significant discussion, Holly Burt called the vote to question, Jacquie Berger seconds. For: 10, Opposed: 0, Abstain: 1. The motion passes. The Senate Representatives can begin voting in the beginning of the academic year. As a follow up, the Senators will request that the UIC Senate By-Laws change to reflect that all AP's can vote for AP Senate Representatives.

- c. Michael Moss mentioned that he abstained because he was not present at the first reading of the proposed amendment changes. Bill Bike cites Illinois Senate precedent and it decided that we could put the vote back on the table.
 - i. Michael Moss calls to question Amendment 1, Jacquie Berger seconds. For: 7, Opposed: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passes.
 - ii. Kimberly Clark calls to question Amendment 2, Jill Davis seconds. For: 7, Opposed: 3, Abstain: 0. Motion passes.

8. New Business:

- a. Elections: Kimberly Clark will email election materials and updates. APAC members will make corrections and vote electronically. The Senate election is ready for online release. All election nomination packets are due to Kimberly Clark by Friday, March 13th. Online elections will go live on March 20th and will be open until April 10th.
- b. Holly Burt followed up on the language of the Senate committee information, as requested by Elizabeth Dooley, Senate Clerk.
- c. By Laws: New proposals were not read due to time constraints

9. The meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm. The next meeting will be March 12th, at 12:30, in 2550 University Hall. Karen Ein will take minutes.

Minutes submitted by Jill Davis.

UIC Academic Professional Advisory Committee UIC Campus Master Planning Discussion

Meeting Summary

Date: February 12, 2009

Place: 4250 MBRB

Participants: UIC Academic Professional Advisory Committee

1. Introductory Remarks

Mary Lelik, Dennis McCauley, and Fernando Howell introduced the Master Planning initiative the campus is undertaking. They explained that the planning effort is currently in the first of three phases and that the planning team is reaching out to campus groups and organizations in an effort to gain inputs and ideas as to how to guide discussions concerning the future of UIC and its physical environment. Mary Lelik posed the following four questions to the group and opened the floor for discussions:

- What are the best features of UIC's physical environment?
- What aspects of the UIC campus do you find unappealing?
- What issues would you like to see addressed in the new campus master plan?
- What could be done to the campus to improve the experience of students at UIC?

2. Desirable Features of UIC's Physical Environment

The following topics were repeatedly mentioned during discussions centered on UIC's positive features:

- **Accessibility** and ease of access to the campus due to a vast public transportation network surrounding the campus is great.
- **Organization** of the East Side of campus is wonderful. It has a centralized traffic flow around "The Quad" and Student Center East that should be replicated on the West Side of campus.
- **Green spaces** and trees are wonderful and should be improved.
- **Oases** and other comfortable, open spaces for students are great!
- **Picnic Tables** are desired throughout campus. New tables should be added and existing concrete picnic tables should be replaced with softer wooden (or durable plastic-type wooden) ones.
- **Open Spaces** are an attractive feature and should be made more visible and accessible. Examples include the West Side courtyards

at the College of Medicine buildings, AOB Medicinal Garden (Atkins Garden), and the SEO Garden (Chicago Circle Memorial Grove)

- **UIC Colors** brighten the campus. Use of UIC colors, such as the blue “Welcome to UIC” banner at the corner of Halsted and Roosevelt, should be expanded.

3. Unappealing Aspects of UIC Campus

The following topics were repeatedly mentioned during discussions centered on aspects of UIC’s physical environment that could be improved:

- **Green Spaces** on campus, especially the West Side, are not properly maintained. There also are not enough of them. At least ensure the grass is always green.
- **Signage**
 - There’s a lack of visible signage from the expressways or CTA stations.
 - Exterior building signage is not attractive, and is often obscured or confusing.
- **Navigating Between East and West Sides of Campus**
 - There’s limited or no ability to obtain parking a permit that allows one to park on both East and West Sides of campus.
 - There’s been a tendency to travel less frequently between the two sides of campus since reductions in shuttle bus service.
 - There’s a lack of parking for people that only need to park occasionally.
- **Occasional drivers** are penalized due to a lack of temporary parking and high costs. The current pricing structure encourages people to drive all the time and this does not conform to ideas of reducing vehicles and parking on campus.
- **Shuttle Bus System** does not work in general
 - The routes are too long; someone traveling from South Campus to the West Side has to travel through the East Side before reaching the West Side.
 - The duration between buses is often too long and unpredictable.
- **Way-finding** is often confusing and walkways often do not exist in the paths people use.
- **Trash** often collects on various parts of campus, especially near SBARRO, where there have been reports of dirt, garbage, and rats.
- **Pedestrian Crossings** are not safe, especially around Harrison and Roosevelt. Count-down crosswalks would be beneficial at major pedestrian crossings.
- **A lack of identity** is an issue that’s often voiced.
 - Medical Center employees don’t feel they’re a part of UIC.
 - The naming of the Medical Center changes too often and does not reflect it to be a part of UIC.

- **Accessibility to the campus** is challenging on weekends and at night. Often there's a lack of consistency regarding the business hours of both sides of the campus. There also is a lack of evening classes.
- **Deferred Maintenance** on campus is a huge concern.
- **Customer Service** on campus needs to be improved.
- **Isolation** is a consistent issue on campus, with many people concerned mainly with their individual organization instead of UIC as a whole.

4. Other Thoughts and Ideas

- The campus needs better gateways.
- The campus needs a strong and consistent name and identity that won't change and that also pays homage to its history. Circle campus was discussed as an example.
- Introduce flex-time and non-traditional work schedules to improve customer service and extend the times at which the campus is operational.
- Allow for people or departments to have a certain amount of free parking to facilitate meetings and travel between both sides of campus.
- A left-turn signal is needed at the intersection of Racine and Harrison.
- Bring back the Taylor Street shuttle, having a simple connection between the two sides of campus.
- Extend the U-Pass program to employees; many don't ride the CTA because it's too expensive.
- Incorporate the UIC nickname, "Flames", as often as possible to help create a sense of identity.
- Develop a strong internal branding initiative to help people understand they're all part of one UIC.
- Add maps to signs near buildings on campus.
- Develop a simple standard for naming buildings.
- Improve customer service.
- Be mindful of expensive capital projects in an environment of operational and administrative budget cuts.
- Have more celebrations to help build a sense of pride on campus.
- Initiate "all-campus" meetings.
- Find ways to better utilize our existing spaces.
- Add UIC colors to signs and buildings wherever possible.

5. If you had to address one issue, what would it be?

- West Side Green Spaces
- Parking/transportation
- Embrace Friendliness
- Deferred Maintenance
- Campus Gateways/Sense of Place/Sense of Arrival at UIC

- Improve Public Art – right now it's too random and weird. Perhaps the campus community could vote on future art projects.