

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL
UIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO

AGENDA
GSC General Body Meeting
March 3, 2009

I. Attendance and Review of Minutes

II. Strategic Planning coming to speak about **Master Campus Plan**.

http://www.uic.edu/master_plan/ (please see attachments on GSC Website) Davide please post the attachments from Master Planning on website with minutes

a. *Amy Levant (Assoc Dean of GC)*, also been involved in strategic planning

b. *Fernando Howell (Staff of Facilities and Space Planning)*

c. Background: The 20 year old plan for campus is being updated now. The focus is on physical campus environment. Four committees working together on this, getting feedback from as many constituents as possible. Landscaping, lighting, buildings, green spaces, East/West campus, lounges/entrances of buildings, etc. Visionary process, last plan was made 20 years ago, now looking to implement and update again.

d. Input from GSC

Q (AL): What is best part of campus? What do you like?

A: South campus development, more grass more trees, new rec facility, new green buildings by University Hall, Grant hall, renovations to classrooms, COMRB, Oasis on Halsted, UIC Forum

Q (AL): AMFMA money at work! So what do you NOT like?

A:

-Disjointedness between East/West campuses, and Chemical Engineering Building too. Understand it's not possible to buy all the real estate between but need to make it more coherent somehow.

-Lack of dedicated space/resources for grad students

-Waste in terms of energy consumption: excessive heating/cooling, even in brand new buildings like COMRB.

-Transportation issues: trackers on shuttles don't work. Timers at stops don't work or are gone, better communication on changes in shuttle schedule. Need more redcars (currently there is only ONE)

-More green space on west campus.

-Updating bathrooms, adding more handicapped stalls

Q: Why express and normal intercampus shuttles? Why not just increase frequency of intercampus shuttle?

A (AL): The express shuttles were implemented to address previous concerns of students

A (Zoe, VP): Back to trying to link the East and West Campuses, what about something like a farmer's market on weekends on Taylor to bridge the campuses?

Q: Campus housing for grad students?

A (Nick Ardinger): There's space available for grad students, families, int'l students, etc

Q (AL): Is the space livable and pricing competitive?

A: Quality could be better. Price/quality tradeoff. Looks like some market research is needed.

Q: Is there grad housing on East campus?

A (Nick): No, can't justify it because West Campus grad housing is not filled. A need must be demonstrated.

AL: I didn't know there was housing for grad students, but looks like it needs to be pursued further. However, Master Planning doesn't really deal with these issues.

Q: is University Hall being fixed? Is it dangerous?

A (AL): The siding on UH was falling off so was taken off to prevent crashing down and endangering people. A temporary fix is very costly, but so is a permanent fix - in the millions.

Q: Is the "Master Campus plan" only physical space/buildings, or is it also about efficiency, technology, and how offices operate?

A (FH): It's a very large overview. Not really about space inside buildings, more about outside and between buildings.

Q: other issues?

A:

-Signage: Need more/better signs inside buildings, outside in between buildings, and in the tunnels underneath and between the buildings. This would help confused staff, students, and patients.

-Infrastructure issues: location of sidewalks on East campus is awkward. Sometimes most logical path is through the grass.

-Make campus more bike friendly

Closing comments by Amy Levant:

- Info has been distributed (please check your emails), we want feedback, important for students to speak out. Go online and send comments!

Planning@uic.edu

-AMFMA: If you're a supported grad student getting a **tuition waiver**, your

AMFMA fee should be waived. Please check your bills and verify 1) *that you are eligible, and if so 2) whether or not it's been waived already.* Best first place to go is Office of Financial aid. If you check all those things and believe you are eligible for AMFMA waiver but have not had it waived, contact Amy Levant at amy@uic.edu. Put "AMFMA" in the header of the email. Must give UIN, specifics on student status, fellowships, percentage fellowship, etc.

- III. **Vote on Project Awards:** 5 applications submitted
- a. Natalia from Anat & Cell Bio. Mentoring program in Brain Awareness Day. Vote: 3 absentions, motion carries.
 - b. Tom Dorrance from History: This year's conference theme is "Plural Visions: Organizing Communities With(in) the State." Last year's was Urban history. This year will be bigger, 27 presenters. Attendance is free. Vote: 1 opposed, 0 abst, motion carries.
 - c. Yvonne Isom from Criminology, Law, & Justice: Judge Doyle from Kane County will speak on a Working Model of Drug Court. Will talk about his operation of drug rehab court. Interdisciplinary issues: law, criminology, sociology, etc. Better understanding of jail/incarceration vs. treatment/ rehabilitation. March 17. Please RSVP. Vote: 3 opposed, 6 abstentions. Motion carries.
 - d. Meena Murphy, Biomedical Visualization. Aug 7-Oct 16 Exhibit at Int'l Museum of Surgical Science. Museum requires 1000 postcard announcements by June to be finalized by June 19. Will showcase what Biomedical Visualization Dept. (students and faculty) does. Opening night is free, Tuesdays are free, the museum also has student discounts. This is open to all students as well as the public. Vote: 4 abst. Motion carries.
 - e. John Russell, Chemistry. Science and Engineering South Poster Session. April 8 poster session in that building in central rotunda to share research and meet/network in a noncompetitive way. Open to everyone. Aiming for 200-300 students to come visit. Good opportunity to get to know peers and see different science from SES. Vote: 5 abst. Motion carries.

Award recipients! Please send information on events to be posted, please include that GSC is sponsoring the event.

Update on Abbott Trip awarded a project grant past Fall: Scheduled for May 21. Bethany White still waiting on further info and will send out as soon as she gets it.

IV. **Old business**

- a. Bill of Rights (Zoe): GC liked an older version with more aggressive language. We incorporated the changes discussed at last meeting into more aggressive older version. Next meeting with GC is sometime next week. Hopefully will get approved at this meeting. We will send out new PDF of new BOR, changes will be noted.

Please give feedback by Friday to the Officers.

- i. Reps don't think we should ratify it if there have been so many new changes.
 - ii. We don't know when the next GC meeting is (ie; before or after GSC meeting)
 - iii. Motion to postpone presenting BOR as approved to GC. Passes?
 - iv. Motion to set up blog and f/u with SurveyMonkey to vote to approve. Opposed, 1. Abst 3. Motion carries.
 - v. Motion to approve, table, or decline in a week.
 - vi. Table to blog!
- b. Student Trustee resigned. (post link to article). New trustee has been elected by Illinois statute, not UIC policy. Elections for student trustee for next year is april 15/16. Deadline for app is this Friday.
<http://www.vcsa.uic.edu/NR/rdonlyres/ED74C017-6F25-4288-B48B-D106AB29C8B6/2066/ElectionPacket20092010.pdf>
(Find student trustee position). Deadline is this Friday.
- c. VSP/GDAP benefits have changed. VSP is still the vision plan. Students who are on outside fellowships and do not have a 25-67% appointment do not get GDAP/VSP. There was an issue with VSP in early January/February, but that has now been resolved. If students have questions, they can contact the GSC Officers.
- d. Transportation is big issue: Irene will be meeting with Chancellor on it. HPSC wants to form task force with GSC to work on this. Red Car, shuttle, safety, etc. If interested, contact officers. *FYI, if you need safety, UIC police will escort you where you need to go.*

V. Committee updates

- a. Academic Affairs (Harish Kanchi): Upcoming Dissertation Workshop on 3/10/09 at 5pm in 1020 COMRB, and part 3 of Mini-Symposium on 3/12/09 in 613 SCE .
- b. Communications (Davide Fossati): Selected Webmaster is Cynthia Schroeder. The evaluation criteria we used to select the website re-design project are the following:
 - i. Graphical attractiveness of the proposal.
 - ii. Usability and ease of maintenance of the website.
 - iii. The website has technical features that make it possible for it to be hosted on the GSC current web server, which has limited capabilities.
 - iv. The candidate demonstrated technical competence.
 - v. The candidate is a UIC graduate student.
- c. Events (Deana Lewis): Upcoming Spring Bowling event at SCE. Details being worked out.

VI. Last meeting:

April meeting is last meeting! 2 important things: 1) approve budget for next year and 2) elect next exec committee. Nominations being accepted starting tonight. Please email officers. We will post a summary of what each position entails.

GSC General Body Meetings 5:30 PM SSB B/C
April 14, 2009

GSC Executive Board 2008-2009

Irene Klein, President
Zoe Hanson, Vice President
Ina Han, Secretary
Davide Fossati, Treasurer

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