

Idaho State University  
**Campus Planning Council**  
Minutes

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

10:00 AM

Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

In Attendance: Ames (Chair), Bowen, Brooks (Vice-Chair), Dance, Daniels, Imel, Kearns, Rodriguez, Sanger, Steiner, Vahsholtz  
Excused: Horton, Martin, Perez, Plewa; Fletcher  
Absent: Ford, Krehbiel, Shurtliff  
Ex-Officio: Chatterton, Lewis, Toney, Wallace (Recording Secretary)  
Guests: Maher Wissa, Anna Weskerna and a few others

**I. Preliminaries:**

Brooks started the meeting; a quorum was present. Maher Wissa and Denise Bowen presented Anna Weskerna with a card, a star-shaped pin and group photograph in front of the Rendezvous Building as a thank-you for her more than 15 years of service to the Campus Planning Council. The guests then left the meeting.

A. Approval of October 8, 2008 Meeting Minutes

**ACTION:** Moved by Sanger and seconded by Kearns **to approve the minutes of October 8, 2008.**  
No discussion. Motion **passed** unanimously.

Bowen met with Ames last week. She distributed a written follow-up from her meeting with President Vailas regarding the Council's Annual Report from last year. **Brooks asked members to review it and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting.**

B. Faculty Senate Update

Faculty Senate is working on a **Bylaws template** for all its Councils and subcommittees to follow in reviewing and revising their bylaws. Bowen reminded the Council that ex-officio members can be either voting or non-voting; the bylaws should specify who votes and who does not. Historically in this Council, ISU administrators were non-voting, but the City of Pocatello representative does vote.

A **summary of Senators' questions and comments about the Council's Annual Report** was distributed to the Council for consideration.

C. Upcoming City Event

Lewis announced that the Historic Preservation Commissions of the Cities of Pocatello and Idaho Falls were co-sponsoring Donovan Rypkema to speak on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> about "*The Economic Benefits of Preservation.*"

**II. Activity Reports:**

A. Executive Council Report

Ames reported that the Executive Committee met two weeks ago and discussed last years' final report and the Senate's comments. The major action item was for **each subcommittee to review its portion of the Annual Report and the Faculty Senate's concerns.** Ames and Bowen agreed to meet to discuss President Vailas' suggestions.

B. Standing Committee Reports

1. **Facilities Naming Committee**

Two naming requests have been received: one from the College of Technology and one from the College of Pharmacy. Council members were given copies of the requests. **Ames will meet with Mr. Fletcher regarding this committee and its structure.** There are no representatives from Public Safety or from ISU's telecommunications department on the committee. This past summer a housing unit had been renamed as *Bengal Studios* without going through the proper

channels. Public Safety and 911 responders were not informed of the name change until much later. The Campus Planning Council should receive a copy of all proposed naming requests before they are submitted to the Facilities Naming Committee and **long before any action is taken** to name or rename buildings.

2. **Facilities Access Committee**

Toney reported the committee held its first meeting and the minutes from that meeting were distributed to the Council members.

**ACTION:** Daniels moved to **accept the Facilities Access Committee Minutes of November 7, 2008**. Seconded by Rodriguez. No discussion. Motion **passed** unanimously.

3. **University Sustainability Committee**

Bowen said the committee was waiting for the Faculty Senate's review of their policy draft. Now that they have received Senate's comments they can proceed.

4. **Campus Beautification Committee**

Vahsholtz reported the committee met on October 21, 2008 and discussed the proposed signs directing traffic to ISU from the freeway. The signs were approved last year but are awaiting final design approval. A customized ISU sign would cost approximately \$75-\$100, whereas a standard traffic sign would cost about \$35. The 2' x 2' signs would have to be approved by the City of Pocatello, but that should not be a problem. The proposed sign locations were two on East Clark Street (one at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue directing to Holt Arena, and one at Eighth Avenue) and one on South Fifth Avenue. Brooks remarked the signs should also direct traffic to the Performing Arts Center.

Vahsholtz said the committee was also reviewing the campus' long-range plan as well as working on their bylaws.

5. **University Facilities and Capital Projects Committee**

Daniels said that he met briefly with Horton and Bowen on November 12, 2008 and discussed last year's annual report and the action item recommendations therein, pending approval by the Faculty Senate. As recommended by the Instructional Space Task Force, Horton planned to work on **improving the system for electronically reporting classroom safety and maintenance issues** so repairs can be done more efficiently and timely.

The Capital Projects Request process this year will follow the same process as it did last year. Horton will send out the requests to the campus community within the next two weeks. Those requests will not be due until January, so there will still be time to implement Faculty Senate's recommendations regarding the review process.

Bowen clarified for the record that the **only projects the Council has been involved with** so far have been **Department of Public Works projects dealing with safety, deterioration, disrepair, and problem issues** with buildings. The Council has not dealt with new construction, renovation or remodeling requests. President Vailas would like the committee to **develop a process and criteria for dealing with those types of requests** as well. This would include a mechanism for retrieving past requests, soliciting new requests, prioritizing and tracking the status of each project request.

**Ames volunteered to follow up with Alba Perez and the Vice President of Research regarding the Senate's recommendations** on Research Facilities Infrastructure Task Force's report.

6. **Historic Preservation Committee**

Kearns reported that Dawn Roland from Facilities has joined the committee. Roland has been on the City's Historic Preservation Commission. Kearns and Rodriguez will meet later today.

**III. Old Business:**

A. Update on 2007-2008 Annual Report

Ames said that now that the Council has the Senate's recommendations they can proceed with the next steps for each section described in the report. Bowen reiterated that although the President has a

copy of the report from the Council, the Faculty Senate will forward its formal recommendations for action to the Administration.

B. Bylaw Revisions

1. **Library Representative**

2. **Deletion of Bannock County Representative**

The Executive Committee will discuss whether to include these items as part of the proposed Bylaws changes to be presented to the full Council near the end of the semester.

IV. **New Business:**

A. Naming Request from College of Technology for the Industrial Crafts Building

The renaming of the building has already taken place. The ribbon-cutting ceremony had been planned and scheduled long before the Council received the renaming request. This type of belated notification has been a recurring problem the Council would like to rectify.

B. Naming Request from College of Pharmacy for Their ISU-Meridian Building Area

Dance asked how expensive are the actual associated costs involved in naming or renaming a building, including but not limited to:

- new signage: both building and way-finding
- changing campus maps to reflect the new name
- new letterhead
- notifying and changing telecommunication and emergency services
  - ISU Campus, City, and County

Ames said that **no information about costs was provided in the naming requests received**. Dance reminded that the costs of *renaming* are not the same as *naming* since renaming entails dismantling the old in addition to installing the new.

**ACTION:** Bowen moved **to table all naming requests until Vice President Fletcher comes to talk to the Campus Planning Council about its concerns regarding facility naming and renaming, and its position in relation to those activities**. Seconded by Dance. No discussion. Motion **passed** unanimously.

C. Pedestrian Mall on MLK

Sanger investigated the prior work done on this idea and said the ISU Circulation Study done in 1999 by the Bannock Planning Organization would be a good starting place if the Council were to revisit the issue. The Council discussed the possibilities of developing a pedestrian pathway along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive or alternative pathways to link upper and lower campus without necessarily closing MLK Drive. Lewis said that vacating the public right-of-way Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd between 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Memorial Drive would entail redirecting traffic circulation around the campus and surrounding areas. The issue is not insurmountable, but would depend on political factors as well as economic and logistic.

Sanger mentioned it might be worth pursuing the \$500,000 ITD Transportation Enhancement Grants available, as the Portneuf Greenway has done. Brooks expressed interest in pursuing this idea further. Bowen suggested working closely with Facilities Services on this project. **Dance volunteered to switch from the University Sustainability Committee to the Campus Beautification Committee to work on the project**. Ames said that Kent Tingey has asked for any recommendations the Council may soon have regarding the issue. Brooks said instead of actual recommendations the Council could express a general interest in revisiting the issue this year.

**ACTION:** Brooks moved **to pursue the idea of creating a more enhanced pedestrian environment along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive and the surrounding areas as part of an overall traffic circulation plan**. Seconded by Bowen.

Discussion: Dance clarified that the intent is to pedestrianize the campus without necessarily eliminating traffic on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Daniels pointed out that **pedestrian activity has increased dramatically in the past two years**; it is quite different now than when the Circulation Study was done. Sanger said that in his conversation with Mory Byington, it was clear that pursuing the pedestrian component would trigger looking at an overall circulation plan for the campus and

surrounding area. Lewis cautioned that the Council would have to work closely with the City on this project, but he was comfortable with working on an overall plan.

The members voted and the **motion passed unanimously**. The Campus Beautification Committee will work on this project.

D. Housing vs Academic Space – *Deferred until a subsequent meeting.*

E. Bengal Village Plans

Campus Planning Council has never seen any master plans proposed by the Athletic Department. Dance said he finally saw the plans yesterday, and it represents \$10-\$15 million of work including relocating the football field, putting in a new practice field, adding on to Holt Arena. He suggested a **formal presentation by the Athletic Department to this Council** would be in order. Bowen said that the former Athletic Director, Paul Bubb, had been invited to attend Council meetings to discuss plans for the proposed Bengal Village, but had declined to do so.

F. Other Business

Daniels said that several years ago the State Board of Education had approved a proposal to establish an ISU Biomedical Research Institute. The plan now in motion is to build the facility between the Nursing and Biology buildings, maintaining much of the current quad in between. This will soon be brought to this Council for approval to be put on the long-range campus plan. Donations and other funding sources are currently being sought; it will not be built using State funds.

**V. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 10, 2008 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.** in the Faculty Senate Conference Room.

**VI. Adjournment:** 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Ames  
Chair, Campus Planning Council

Catherine Wallace  
Administrative Assistant 1  
Faculty Senate Office

Approved by Campus Planning Council: January 28, 2009  
Accepted by Faculty Senate: February 2, 2009