

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes of UWAC
Monday, March 6th, 2023
In-person Meeting

Architectural Commission

X	Renee Cheng, Chair	Dean, College of Built Environments	Voting
X	Gundula Proksch, Vice Chair	Faculty Council on Campus Planning and Stewardship	Voting
X	Cathy Simon	Professional Member	Voting
X	John Syvertsen	Professional Member	Voting
X	Andrea Leers (online)	Professional Member	Voting
X	Linda Jewell	Professional Member	Voting
X	Edwin Harris	Professional Member	Voting
	Solana Granada	Student Member	Voting
X	Steve Tatge	Associate Vice President, UW Facilities	Ex Officio
X	Lou Cariello	Vice President, UW Facilities	Ex Officio
X	Kristine Kenney	Director of Campus Architecture & Planning, UW Facilities	Ex Officio

Minutes by Laura Salish, Executive Assistant to the Director of Campus Architecture & Planning

Call to Order

The Chair of the Architectural Commission and Dean of the College of Built Environments, Renee Cheng, called the meeting to order.

Approval of Past Minutes and Current Agenda

The December 12th, 2023 meeting minutes and current agenda were approved. Cathy moved to approve, John seconded.

UWAC Member Update

Gundula Proksch and Jan Whittington are now co-chairs for Faculty Council on Campus Planning and Stewardship. Gundula will function as the primary Vice Chair for UWAC.

College of Built Environment Space Study

Renee Cheng

Assessment of CBE Space was facilitated by Kieran Timberlake and included the following:

- Gould, Arch Hall, CERC, and CDB
- October workshops, students faculty, and staff
- Surveys for chairs, students, faculty, and staff
- Utilized Project Working Team & Advisory Committee: not a capital project but mirrored the formation process

Overview:

- The process reflected inclusive engagement, built on in-house knowledge, and supported deep collaboration in anticipation of the future by identifying learning opportunities that will diversify instructional spaces.
- Strong effort to have equal slices of representation (undergrads by year and focus of study, graduate by year and focus of study, faculty of different subjects)
- Results of analysis:

- Student space represents 0.3% of the total interior space in Architecture Hall and 1% in Gould Hall, and 8% in the Center for Space and Reconstruction.
- Student space is defined as primarily set up for student use, space to which they have primary access.
 - Types of spaces include: Information collaboration, meetings, lounge, study space
 - Included a mapping exercise of where students go to collaborate which is often fairly far from where their classes are held – Paccar Hall and other remote locations.
- Strong relationship between personal care and well-being with deferred maintenance issues
- Focus on office spaces (often used as storage of books and student work) and opportunities to rethink how these are arranged, assigned, and used throughout the day.
- Exterior spaces: Gould has large terraces that are unusable due to structural issues, some smaller terraces are usable but are often only accessed from private offices.
- Work session 1: assessment of existing conditions
 - Dynamics of who had control of drawings was interesting
 - Kieran Timberlake was able to jump in and provide analysis that spurred discussion
 - Interdisciplinary teams naturally formed and minimal facilitation was needed
 - Felt very democratic with students being a bit quieter than the staff
 - Questions were posed in the form of: We want to talk about this, come join us!
 - Prompts came from the October workshop, surveys and Project Working Team
 - Ex. Re-Think the Fablab (how can the Fablab and shop of Gould hall be made more welcoming and accessible to all members of Gould Hall?)
- Work session 2: Future Roadmaps Scenarios
 - Next steps: Identify requests for Provost Reinvestment Funds and Programmatic Renewal Funds
 - Adaptive reuse opportunities to meet space needs
 - Creation of informational wheel diagrams: identifying and categorizing various issues into 3 levels of assessment. Example: Lack of access
 - Location too far, poor systems, limited resources, inequity (Building is not always accessible, hallways are restrictive)
 - Things that undermine our purpose
 - Things that amplify our purpose
- Equity and Inclusivity: These themes describing factors impacting equity and inclusive environments are aggregated and paraphrased from feedback provided in partnership with Dr. Karen Thomas Brown from the College of Engineering.
- Renee Cheng, Billie Faircloth with Kieran Timberlake, and Dr. Karen Thomas Brown will be presenting on this, in the future
 - SCUP Pacific Conference (March 2023)
 - AIA, will have a more built out side by side comparison (2023)
- Will be getting support from alumni and additional donors for future projects.
- One of the first projects is to examine faculty office spaces: how do spaces meet the need?
 - Variety needed/requested
 - Scope: cosmetic vs system (electrical, HVAC, elevators, etc)
 - Potential trade-off of smaller office spaces for more variety of general meeting spaces
 - Concept is to take a group of faculty offices to volunteer to try this trade-off, does it make a difference in these feelings of access and equity?

Discussion:

- Faculty studios are being used in different capacities: generational, and pandemic influence. Shift in work habits and value of being in that space.
 - Existing building myopia, discussion of what needs to stay
 - Plan for the now & the future

- Show the vision for what could be, need to talk about trade-offs instead of trying to do everything at once
- Greater good, out of the mentality of “losing” when space is being reconfigured
- Individuals need carrots, avoiding the scarcity model
- Pressure to see action
- Students who are participating in these conversations now, will not be here when these changes are made. Staff and faculty are more likely to be.
- Utilizing savings on hand for matching (from Covid funds), student technology fee can now be used for classroom conversions.
- Anything that feels like we’re breaking the log jam instead of moving things around, would help the perception around the value of this exercise.

ICA Basketball Operations

Gensler

Updates

- It’s been 1-year since we last met
- Budget has been increased from \$53.75M to \$59.575M
- Program retained includes: 2 basketball courts, entry, lobby, restrooms, and building support
- Program excluded: locker rooms, player lounges, coach staff offices, sports medicine, rehab, and nutritional program
- GSF reduced from 55K to 38K

Schedule

- Project definition concluded 2023
- Design and preconstruction: March 2023-March 2024
- Construction March 2024-August 2025
- Occupation October 2025

Project Goals

- Provide a 1st class training facility home for men’s and women’s basketball program
- Point of arrival and interior circulation will enhance student-athlete access and maximize the appeal of Husky Basketball for prospective recruits

Building Planning Massing & Materials

- Building will celebrate basketball, it needs to exude that concept inside and out
- Village, stitching together with the materials already in this area of campus
- Will have landscaping that celebrates seasonality and is cohesive with the rest of campus
- Embrace the Seattle fog feeling of concealing and revealing
- What we heard from 2022 UWAC review—
 - buildings are currently shown in a parking lot, provides an opportunity to create a “great street”
 - Outdoor space must accommodate game day and everyday activities
 - Softer more intentional landscape to create a sense of place
 - This needs to be a wonderful place: consider the building as a wall of the room, an exterior room that connects disparate pieces
 - Strong connective tissue from campus to athletic village-use every bit of the streetscape
 - Lack of perceived safety while moving through area at night – no natural surveillance

Architectural Concept

- Building 1st-floor is set at elevation 37, 2nd floor at 51 (same level of Hec Ed Arena)

- Jewel box-like recruitment closing room floats above the lobby, the intent is to provide a WOW moment.
- The area referred to as the paseo is the gasket between the new building and the existing Hec Ed exterior brick wall and will include skylights, information gathering spaces, and large windows overlooking the courts.
- Can't have glazing directly in courts due to glare but looking at other options to provide diffused light into these. Investigating the use of a CPI panel instead of glazing, can't see through but allows light trespass.
- Lots of branding opportunities scattered throughout.

Landscaping

- One village: interconnectedness, athletic community
- Passage, movement through space, engagement of senses, important for recruitment
- Porch: Place for entry & pause, outward looking, social connection
- Site Re-organization: putting pressure on central open space to operate on a high level with the removal of the unhealthy trees in 4x4 landscape space in parking lot, transforming this into a pedestrian focused space while providing controlled service & emergency access.
- District Identity
 - Improve pedestrian spaces and safety
 - Design for complex vehicular access
 - Develop a cohesive athletic district palette
 - Create a continuous campus feel
 - Paving, lighting and planting are biggest opportunities for materiality
 - Specific materials not identified yet, some at campus standard, pedestrian height instead of parking lot level
 - Planting principles
 - Passage: garden scale, seasonal interest that reflects athletic calendar
 - Porch: open/accent

Next steps are to confirm:

- Confirm Game Day operations are addressed and not significantly impacted
- Confirm district accessibility & parking requirements
- Utility Coordination
- Incorporate branding into the experience from the outside to the inside
- Align budget with scope

Discussion:

- Come a long way in a year: it all seems very logical
- Landscape feels like a very intelligent series of micro solutions
 - Relieved by the height to width ratio for space between ICA and Nordstrom Court
 - Awkward entry sequence due to grade changes could use a little more work
- Sometimes reduction of program is beneficial, clearer and more simple identity of program
 - Would caution erring on the side of simplicity of passage between ICA and Nordstrom Court
 - Tucking seating areas into grading areas to see into buildings
- Potentially angle skylights? To be able to see the brick beyond (but not the mechanical on the roof)
- Exterior: wood south facing to warm it up, could we add masonry texture? Potentially, budget constraints.
- How do students utilize this space in everyday usage? How athletes feel at home here? How does it connect to the lockers and where are the coaches?
 - Building will change how students react to site, used to be a pool

- New frontage and entrance would only be used for game days, makes more sense for students to come through other entrances for practices
- Due to budget constraints, lockers are no longer incorporated with new court
- Canopy could get more playful, does it have to parallel to building? Want to feel excitement when coming through space. Vision glass is currently very symmetrical. Could wrap allow you to peek into the space, before they enter the lobby. similar to the paseo skylights?

Haggett Hall Overview

Scope of Work:

- Phase 1: Abatement and demolition of the existing building, and temporary landscape improvements required to bring existing grades and roadways surrounding Willow Hall into SDCI compliance.
- Phase 2: Design and construction of a new residence hall utilizing the design-build process.

Budget: current funding of \$22,500,000 for Phase 1.

Project Schedule:

- Architect Selection: Jan 2023-Mar 2023
- Demo design and permitting starts Jan 2023
- Target abatement work start Q3 2023
- Demolition Q2 2023
- Completion no later than April 2027

Haggett Hall Architect Interviews

- Interview 1: EHDD
- Interview 2: Mahlum & Deborah Berke
- Interview 3: Mithun

The UWAC members recommend the Mahlum and Deborah Berke team

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00PM.

The next meeting will be held in person on Monday, September 11th and Tuesday, September 12th, 2023.