

University Facility Fee Advisory Board

Minutes

Thursday, February 15th, 2018

5:00-7:00 pm

303 GSB

Members Present

Tristan Syron	Chair
Nick Bohn	Vice-Chair
Kenzie Schmitt	Warner College of Natural Resources
Haley Hopkins	College of Business
Dillon Donaghy	CVMBS
Grace Clark-Rabinowitz	College of Natural Sciences
Brye Windell	College of Engineering
Arnold Paecklar	Graduate School

Associate Members Present

Natalie Miller	CVMBS
Rebecca Rathburn	College of Health and Human Sciences
Patrick Donovan	Warner College of Natural Resources

Other Members Present

Tom Satterly	Advisor
Simon Tavener	Co-Advisor
Becca Mueller	Program Manager

1. **Supplemental Funding for the new Richardson Design Center – Dean Jeff McCubbin, Laura Malinin, Dave Carpenter**
 - a. The Richardson Family, who created Otter Box, has donated \$8 million to a new Design Center.
 - b. The purpose of the Design Center is to train students in real life situations in a hands-on environment.
 - c. While planning the facility, the Dean had a round table discussion with students, community, faculty, etc. to understand needs.
 - d. The new facility is located next to the Visual Arts Building, across from the Stadium. The building will have high traffic/visibility.
 - e. Aylesworth, which currently houses design staff and students, will be redeveloped over the next several years so the College is looking at constructing a new, state of the art facility to house the program.
 - f. The angular design of the building is meant to draw people in with natural passages with existing paths.
 - g. The facility will include maker spaces, prototyping workshop spaces, collaboration labs for project-based learning, metal shops, and digital technologies. The south side of the building will have design exchange, guest lecture spaces, and a few offices. Classrooms will have flexible furniture to increase collaboration.
 - h. Creativity and design will be on display with glass walls, exposed pipes, etc.
 - i. The building will be accessible by design students 24 hour/day with keyless access. Dedicated staff will also be available to help teach students how to safely use equipment.
 - j. The total budget of the project is \$19.2 million and the College has a \$4.6 million funding gap, for which they are actively seeking donations.
 - k. **The total funding ask of UFFAB is \$750,000.**

Questions:

- a. To what specific room or area will UFFAB's funding go towards?
 - i. The College has not specifically identified an area for this funding to go towards. UFFAB could have a say about where the funding goes.
- b. Will the building only serve senior capstone projects?
 - i. No, not exclusively. Other students and projects are welcome in the facility and hopefully, other programs in other colleges will use the facility.
- c. Why can't the College take out a loan from another source?

- i. A short term loan will cost the College a lot in interest. The College is hopeful more donations will be received.

2. Microbiology 2nd Floor Classroom-based Undergraduate Research Experience Open Lab Space – Dr. Greg Dean

- a. The College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences has a strategic initiative to enhance undergraduate research experiences. CVMBS is committed to this through the following actions –
 - i. Increasing opportunities for undergraduates students to engage in hypothesis driven research
 - ii. Increased competitions of graduates pursuing jobs in the biomedical research sector or advance degrees
- b. CVMBS has created a new Introduction to Research class, established an undergraduate research fellows program, established a coordinated program to match students with research faculty, established an undergraduate faculty mentor program, and established new leadership role: director of undergraduate research.
- c. CVMBS would also like to outfit a state-of the art research lab for:
 - i. Course based undergraduates research program
 - ii. International genetically engineered machine completion
 - iii. Intra-and extramurally supported UG research
 - iv. Capstone
 - v. Senior projects
- d. The department has already invested in 1,020 square feet of research lab space and would like to complete the lab with an additional 600 square feet. The additional 600 square fit is in need of renovation to serve the need.
- e. 100 undergraduate researchers and 22 undergraduate research fellows will use this space. 10-12 students are turned away from the lab each year, due to lack of space.
- f. The space will be collaborative and will include both wet and dry lab space. The space will also build a sense of community.
- g. With this enhanced research space, the department believes students will have expanded research opportunities to include interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaborations.
- h. The project budget and funding request from UFFAB is \$156,367.

Questions:

- a. Will students have any input in the design of the space?
 - i. Yes, students who will use the space will be consulted about design, which is a method other universities have used when designing similar lab space.
- b. Can graduate students use this space?
 - i. Graduate students will work in the lab as mentors but primarily, undergraduate students will use the space.

3. Student Area Refresh - Seating and Messaging Boards – Theresa Todd

- a. The College of Business has three main facilities – Rockwell Hall, Rockwell West, and Rockwell North.
- b. Business is the largest major on campus (total of 5,357) –
 - i. Graduates - 1,350 students
 - ii. Minor - 1,803 students
 - iii. Undergraduate - 2,204 students
- c. COB has invested in new study labs, study bars, seating, paint, flooring, etc. to enhance the student experience through environment. Students have provided input in the design and selection of furniture in several places.
- d. The total funding ask to UFFAB is \$23,450 to provide more seating and message board in COB buildings. The request includes -

- i. \$3,000 for ottomans
 - ii. \$16,000 for hallway benches
 - iii. \$4,450 for bulletin board
- e. This furniture replacement will remove splintering wooden benches, provide more seating for students, and centralize a hub of information on message boards.

Questions:

- a. Is the material of the future durable and easy to clean?
 - i. Yes, the furniture fabric is an ultra-resistant vinyl that is very durable and easy to clean.
- b. Will the benches increase seating capacity?
 - i. No, the benches will only replace old seating, not increase capacity.

4. Guest Presentation – Provost Rick Miranda

- a. Provost Rick Miranda and Vice President for University Operations Lynn Johnson both visit the Board once a year, to discuss university priorities.
- b. The Provost thanked the Board for taking the UFFAB process seriously and evaluating the merits of each project, with consideration to the seven funding rules. Campus has transformed significantly due to UFFAB (BSB, Computer Science, UCA, Biology, etc.)
- c. The Provost also encouraged the Board to fund a variety of projects across multiple departments, ranging in size and scope.
- d. The Provost didn't want to influence UFFAB's decision but asked the Board to consider helping the Richardson Design Center project, as it is struggling financially.
 - i. Lynn Johnson has agreed to match UFFAB's funding from the general fund, if UFFAB approves funding.
 - ii. The Provost is committed to finding a way to make the project happen and UFFAB could potentially help.
 - iii. The value of the Richardson Design Center project should not devalue any other project.

Questions:

- a. The Richardson Design Center is in need of \$4.2 million, even with UFFAB's potential contribution, correct?
 - i. Yes, but the \$4.2 million is needed over a 5 year period. There is an immediate need to fill a \$1.2 million gap in funding for the project.
- b. Is UFFAB the only resource for funding this project?
 - i. It is not the only resource but it is the best resource. The College wants to avoid paying interest on loans.
- c. What is being done to ensure a project doesn't start without all needed funding again, like the Richardson Design Center?
 - i. Donors are unpredictable and a potential donation fell through early in the project. Dr. Frank has recommended we not rely on donors as much for future projects.
- d. Why aren't we investing in old buildings instead of new buildings?
 - i. New buildings attract donors more easily.
- e. Why isn't the department paying more?
 - i. The University created a funding plan and adhered to the plan. Resources were found from other areas. The plan was over-optimistic and the project is short on funding.

5. Business

- a. The three projects presented were legitimized by 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.