

University Facility Fee Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 2nd, 2017

303 GSB

Members Present:	Tristan Syron	Chair
	Nick Bohn	Vice-Chair
	Rachel Largay	Warner College of Natural Resources
	Kalyn Blach	College of Agriculture
	Miriam Wagoner	College of Business
	Amanda Evans	CVMBS
	Jacob Royer	College of Natural Sciences
	Mauri Richards	College of Engineering

Member at Large	Tyler Siri	ASCSU
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Associate Members Present:

Alex Stately	CVMBS
Shannon McNulty	Warner College of Natural Resources
Grace Clark-Rabinowitz	College of Natural Sciences
Nicole Ramo	Graduate School

Other Members Present:

Tom Satterly	Advisor
Simon Tavener	Co-Advisor
Kristi Buffington	Facilities Management
Becca Mueller	Program Manager
Savanna Bunnell	Facilities Management
Dan Kozlowski	Facilities Management

1. Call to order

- Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm.

2. Approval of minutes

- The chair asked for unanimous approval of the minutes.
- There was no dissent.
- Minutes approved.

3. Presentation – Modular Learning Spaces to Support Student Learning in Chemistry – Melissa Reynolds

- Total ask: \$119,550**
- This proposal is for the renovation of a number of classrooms in the Yates Building to be used as study spaces for students enrolled in chemistry courses.
- Around 68-72% of CSU students will have taken at least one chemistry class by the time of their graduation.
- Organic Chemistry, a class many students outside of the Chemistry majors must take, has the highest drop, fail, withdraw (DFW) rate at the university.
- Challenges with chemistry courses include having to grasp abstract topics, knowledge building, and changing study skills. The goal of this renovation is to provide a physical space that will help students tackle these issues.
- The Chemistry department recently opened the Chemistry Learning and Resource Center (CLeRC) where students can come and interact with faculty, TA's, and fellow classmates to review material and study. It has received great feedback and is heavily used.

- g. The immediate issue that will be alleviated with these renovations is the current inability for these classrooms to be flipped classrooms. The classrooms are currently inefficient and not conducive to the type of learning/studying that chemistry courses require.
- h. The project plan for Yates 102-103 include the addition of A/V technology, new mobile furniture, and whiteboards.
- i. The project plan for Yates 406 also includes the addition of A/V technology, new paint and carpeting, change of orientation, and mobile furniture and whiteboards.
- j. Yates 204 only requires the replacement of furniture to create a flipped classroom experience.
- k. These spaces would only be used by undergraduate students taking chemistry classes.
- l. The Chemistry Department recently hired a staff member whose responsibilities include developing games and activities for students to participate in to help in the learning process. The problem is that there is currently no designated space for this staff member to do these games and activities.
- m. The benefits to students include providing support for undergraduate students who take chemistry courses, encouraging more students and faculty to engage with alternative methods of instruction, enhancing the academic experience for students by providing support structures, increasing retention rates and adding to the existing infrastructure of Yates.

Questions -

- a. Have you considered lowering the number of whiteboards in the classrooms to reduce the budget, maybe drop the number down from 7 to 3?
 - i. The estimate includes 3 mounted white boards and 4 rolling white boards. If we needed to drop the budget we could considered reducing the number, but that are a crucial part of the experience and are currently within the budget limit we are comfortable with.
- b. When will these classrooms be used? Will there be specific scheduling?
 - i. It depends on enrollments. This room would not be scheduled unless we absolutely had to, in which case they could be used as recitations. But the goal is to keep them overflow spaces. Right now, Yates 406 is occupied about 80% of the time.
- c. Would the capacity of the rooms stay the same with the new mobile furniture?
 - i. Yes.

Legitimacy Vote -

- a. Tyler moved to legitimize the project.
- b. Grace seconded.
 - i. All in favor - 9
 - ii. All opposed - 0
 - iii. All abstaining - 0
- c. Project is legitimized.

4. Presentation – Renovation of BSPM Graduate Student Office (E-003 Plant Sciences) – Stacy Endriss

- a. **Total Ask: \$100,092**
- b. This proposal is for the renovation of the BSPM graduate student office located in E-003 Plant Sciences.
- c. The office is currently inefficient, outdated and in disrepair. It does not provide the students with a productive work environment.
- d. The furniture is mismatched and often unusable, the carpet is stained and tattered, and the overall condition of the room has deteriorated.
- e. Presently, there are 57 graduate students working in the office and only 23 desks. Right now, students are using the library as overflow space. The department is expected to grow and there is not enough space to accommodate the incoming students.
- f. The graduate students using this space not only contribute to the university facility fee but also bring in money to the university through grant writing. In the past 5 years, they were able to bring in over \$16 million in research grants. Unfortunately, this money can only be used for lab supplies and student tuition, not capital construction.
- g. Renovating the office will increase productivity in grant writing and research, teaching, service and extension, and coursework. These are principles outlined in the University’s mission statement.

- h. A new, more inviting space, will also foster a sense of community, collaboration and increase recruitment possibilities.
- i. The proposed design would help overcome two of the biggest challenges; the growing space crisis and need for a productive work environment.
- j. The space would include both stationary work spaces and some mobile stations. Each semester, it can be decided if spaces will be assigned or shared, depending on need. There will also be increased storage capability.
- k. There will be a greater number of desks, improved lighting, decreased clutter and damage repairs.
- l. The goal is that this space can be used as a template for future renovations to similar work spaces.
- m. Historically, CAS has not been granted a lot of funding from UFFAB. Also, there has only been one graduate space funded by UFFAB in the past.

Questions -

- a. The renovation only includes 31 desks. Won't the space be outgrown quickly?
 - i. In preparation for this proposal, the department surveyed the students to ask who would want a desk, who would mind sharing a desk, and many other questions regarding space needs. Many graduate students did not mind sharing a desk with another student and others didn't want a desk at all. The department thinks with the combination of mobile spaces and stationary stations; their space needs will be met.

Legitimacy Vote -

- a. Nicole asked where a project like this would get funding from other than UFFAB.
 - i. Either from the department, Central Administration, or Facilities Management. However, safety and functionality take priority over furniture and aesthetics, so this project would be low on the queue from any other funding agency.
- b. Tyler asked if graduate students pay the facility fee.
 - i. Yes, graduate students pay the facility fee.
- c. Grace moved to legitimize the project.
 - i. Shannon seconded.
 - ii. All in favor - 9
 - iii. All opposed - 0
 - iv. All abstained - 0
 - ii. Project is legitimized.

Next meeting is Thursday, March 9th in GSB 303.