

Faculty Senate Environment and Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 3, 2012, 11:00–12:30PM
PC 225 on the MMC
LIB 155 on the BBC on video

Present: Constance Bates (Business), Yong Cai (A&S), Peter Craumer (A&S), Hector R. Fuentes (Engineering), Roberto Rovira (CARTA), John Stuart (CARTA). Ex-officio: Ryan Vogel (OUS), Tony Vu (Treasurer).

Absent: Joel Heinen (A&S), Bob Griffith (Facilities)

1) Introduction of committee members.

2) Committee charge by Delano Gray, Chair of the Faculty Senate

- Delano charged the committee:
 - Primary concern is overbuilding on MMC. For the senate, this is a big issue.
 - Look at the preserve, its location on the campus master plan and consider the areas around the preserve. Develop the southern end to focus on wildlife. In the longer term view, 15-20 year out, look at the north end of the preserve having housing.
 - Development and future of BBC has a number of very important issues including entry, traffic, future building in and around the campus, and curricular issues—how to best coordinate the campus and its offerings.
 - Noted that student growth has been stopped for 2013–14.
 - PG-6 is the next garage slated to be built. There was a discussion of the importance of convenient parking and/or a way to allow for convenient transportation through the campus.
 - Contact Javier Marquéz, the president’s chief of staff and the Chair of the Master Plan taskforce.
 - There was a brief discussion of the recent acquisition of the Jewish Museum. There is to be no change to the museum. Howard Lipman is “in charge.”
 - Recycling and signage.
 - Recreational space/center needs to be bigger.

3) Selection of committee chair and any other committee officers

- John Stuart was unanimously elected as chair.
- There was discussion as to whether the committee needed an associate chair or whether there still needed to be a subcommittee dedicated to the preserve in light of the fact that it now has a full-time manager and Ryan Vogel, the former manager, is now overseeing that manager in the Office of University Sustainability.
- John moved and was supported by the committee that Roberto Rovira be associate chair of the committee—this was argued to be particularly necessary in cases in which John is not able to be at the committee meetings.

4) Review of Committee By-Laws

- Completed without comment.

5) Review of End-of-Year Report for 2011-12

- Completed without comment

6) Requests from the Faculty Senate Steering Committee

- **Issues of parking on BBC**
- **Issues related to expansions on campus and their environmental impact.**
 - These were related to the report and charge given by the chair of the Faculty Senate

7) Invitees to address the committee at future Meetings:

- **Wednesday, November 7, 2012, 11-12:30PM**
- **Wednesday, December 5, 11-12:30PM**
 - Steve Moll, Vice Provost for the Biscayne Bay Campus
 - Ken Jessell, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
 - Jim Wassenaar, Executive Director of Student Affairs Operations and Auxiliary Services
 - Bill Foster, Assistant Vice President of Business and Finance
 - The committee agreed that if at all possible, the first two visitors to the committee would be Steve Moll to discuss his vision of the BBC, and Ken Jessell to give an overview of progress on campus. [Follow up: Steve Moll has agreed to join us for our next meeting and Ken Jessell will be at our December 5 meeting.]

8) New Business

- Roberto is on the parking taskforce and will provide a report to the committee once the taskforce has come to conclusions.
- Hector opined, given the limited human resources and time limitations of the Committee to make contributions, on the need to focus on an important “issue”, “topic”, “theme” or “problem” whose solution would make a major difference in the institution. He reminded of examples of what our Committee, in the past and under various names, has been able to contribute include “conceptual input to the FIU Master Plan”, signing of the FIU Presidents Climate Commitment Task Force, establishment of a Sustainability Vision, Mission and Actions for FIU, including the creation of the Sustainability Committee, the Sustainability Office, and first LEEDS-certified buildings, among others. Once an issue is identified, the Committee should then concentrate its efforts to best address it, producing results, within an academic year. It went to state that the Committee should not distract itself with too many operational details that should be taken care of by the responsible administrative offices; of course, a reasonable overseeing of the implementation of good environmental and sustainable practices may be appropriate. There was some discussion about the focus, particularly now that the committee is no longer *ad hoc*. Hector also suggested considering the access, evacuation and safety needs of the Biscayne Campus as a possible committee theme for this year.

9) Next meeting: Wednesday, November 7, 11–12:30PM, PC 225 and LIB 155.

- Updated to Monday, November 5, 2-3:30PM, PC 225 and BBC to coordinate with BBC Vice Provost Steve Moll's schedule.