

BUILDING COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES FOR JUNE 3, 2008

Members present: Adams, Cordova, Davis, Latta, Skaugset, Som

1) **Woods and Words Poetry Reading** – The reading is scheduled for Friday, June 6, 3-4 PM in the First Floor Knuckle of Richardson Hall. Twelve poems were submitted by 8 students. Two \$100 prizes will be awarded for the best poems, one for a forestry student and one for a student from the English Department. Several students are scheduled to read their poems. In addition, a number of “classic poems” from past students will be read. Caryn Davis is in charge of organizing the event.

2) **Handicapped access to Peavy and RH** – The BCC briefly discussed the “Forestry ADA Access Plan for Improvements (04/30/2008)” prepared by Roger Admiral. The committee urges Roger to go ahead and implement the plan in as timely a fashion as possible. The committee will periodically review progress in completing the plan with Roger starting next fall.

3) **Communications Action Plan Update** – Tom reviewed a draft communications action plan (“Plan for Improving Communications in the College of Forestry (Draft May 12, 2008)”) with the FEC in April. This draft plan was the product of two joint half-day workshops with the BCC and FEC that were organized by an ad hoc College committee and facilitated by Angelo Gomez and Anne Gilles in Affirmative Action. The FEC wants to discuss the plan in more detail at a mini retreat this summer.

4) **Committee makeup in 2008-09** – Pat Cordova and Caryn Davis have volunteered to remain on the BCC through next year. With Nick Som (graduate student), Janey Parsons (classified), Arne Skaugset (prof, FE), Mark Needham (prof, FR), and Tom Adams (prof, FS, and committee chair) scheduled to rotate off the committee there are 5 positions to fill for 2008-09 (see attached).

5) **DAP Actions Items** – See attached summary of progress on DAP action items and suggested next moves to make progress on implementing the DAP.

Final comment by Tom Adams: Thanks to all the members of the BCC this year for your efforts. It has been great to work with you all. I think our committee has made a significant difference in the College over the several years of its existence. I expect this trend will continue in the future as the committee addresses in earnest the many issues raised in the DAP. Thanks especially to all the members rotating off this year: Nick Som, Janey Parsons, Mark Needham, and Arne Skaugset.

Forestry ADA Access Plan for Improvements (04/30/2008)

Action steps are arranged in priority of importance and/or ease of accomplishment. Section A can likely be accomplished with College resources and staffing. Section B will require University resources.

Section A

These actions will be supported from the College maintenance budget. The Director of Operations will work with the Forestry Projects and Maintenance crew to schedule tasks on a not to interfere basis with priority maintenance and research assistance requirements. Forestry Communications Group will assist with creation of updated floor plans.

1. Produce and install signage in basement parking lot area to identify Richardson and Peavy entrances, and provide direction in hallway intersections and other key locations to appropriate elevators.
2. Produce and install signage for Peavy courtyard entrances that indicate the location of a receptionist who can provide directions to accessible facilities.
3. Add beveled lips to door thresholds at building entrances so wheelchairs can roll easily through the doorways (this is required under ADAAG section 303, accessible building guidelines).
4. Add skirting to Peavy water fountains so they are not a trip hazard for limited-vision individuals using a cane to assist with navigation. The cane will not detect the water fountain [ADAAG section 307].
5. Paint or apply a contrasting color along the edge of the black stairs on the first floor between Richardson and Peavy.
6. Explore with BIC and FEC the option of converting Peavy 112 restroom to a unisex, accessible restroom. (Note: The restrooms for Peavy 130 auditorium are not accessible; stalls are too small for a wheelchair to maneuver. This leaves the only ground floor accessible restrooms as those in the Dean's wing).
7. Modify a counter in Student Services so that there is a lowered opening for access at wheelchair level.
8. Produce and install clearly visible building maps at all exterior doors to indicate main office, elevators, power doors, and accessible restrooms.
9. Reprint the building layouts/floor plans (available by Richardson entrances) to highlight accessible doors, restrooms, offices for assistance, etc. Font sizes should be bigger for low vision visitors. Create similar building floor plan plaques for all Peavy entrances.

Section B

The Director of Operations will submit Work Orders to Facilities for the minor door adjustments. Funding requests will be submitted to the University for money in FY09 and FY10 to add powered doors. Relocation of parking spaces will be requested after nearby power doors have been installed.

1. Request OSU ease tension on non-powered doors to common spaces (i.e., restrooms, main building doors). Both buildings have heavy wooden or metal doors, but they should open with 5 pounds of pressure or less [ADAAG section 404.2.9].

2. Request OSU increase timing cycle on Richardson main entrance (Jefferson St.) powered door. Current setting does not provide adequate time for wheeled individual to clear both doors [ADAAG section 404.2.8].
3. Request OSU install a lever handle instead of round knob on the door to Student Services, Peavy 140.
4. Request OSU adjust elevator doors so they remain open for at least 6 seconds.
5. Request OSU install a power door at Peavy locker room entrance. This is the closest handicap parking to the buildings so ease of entry is important for people who use mobility aids. Peavy accessibility through basement is constrained only by elevator control heights.
6. Request OSU relocate Peavy elevator controls (on the wall and in the car), which are too high for wheeled users. Controls may not meet federal reach requirements and do not meet OSU campus standards. They should be centered at 35”.
7. Request Parking Services relocate the Handicap parking spaces at South entrance of Richardson so they are closer to the building.
8. Request OSU add a power opener to Student Services entrance door, Peavy 140.
9. Request OSU put power openers on the South entrance to Richardson Hall. There are handicap parking spaces near this entrance and an accessible path, but then two heavy doors to get through.
10. Consult with FSL and Parking Services to determine if handicap parking spaces in lot West of Richardson could be moved closer to Richardson West entrance (already a powered door).

Building Community Committee
2008-09 Membership and Rotation
6/3/08

<u>Representation</u>	<u>Appt. (end date)</u>	<u>Name</u>
Undergraduate Student	1 year (09)	
Graduate Student	1 year (09)	
Classified Employee	2 years (09)	Pat Cordova
Classified Employee	2 years (10)	
Research Assistant/Associate/Professional	2 years (09)	Greg Latta
Research Assistant/Associate/Professional	2 years (09)	Caryn Davis
Professorial – FERM	2 years (10)	
Professorial – FES	2 years (10)	
Professorial – WSE	2 years (09)	Kaichang Li
FEC Rep	2 years (09)	Jim Johnson

Notes:

- 1) One-half of 2-year appointees rotate off the Committee each year (July 1).
- 2) In addition to the above representation, the Committee will include diversity in gender, race, ethnicity, etc.
- 3) The BCC should make recommendations on appointees (perhaps after soliciting volunteers).
- 4) The Committee will elect two co-chairs for two-year (?) terms. One to rotate off each year.

REMARKS ON IMPLEMENTING THE DAP (6/03/08)

The following is a brief accounting of discussions by the BCC in 2007-08 concerning implementation of the action items in the College's Diversity Action Plan. The sum of the actions in the DAP is quite ambitious and requires additional consideration on how they can be implemented in the most effective and efficient way possible. While implementation has started or is completed on a few of the action items (#s 1, 3, 10), while the others need to be explored in much more depth in order to decide how to proceed.

1. *Ensure diverse perspectives are brought forward when College plans and decisions are made.*

1a,b. Members of the BCC should meet with CFAC to get their opinion on how well the revised leadership structure (expanded FEC and establishment of CFAC) is working.

An ad hoc college committee worked with facilitators from Affirmative Action (Angelo Gomez and Anne Gilles) on two communication workshops this spring with participation by members of the FEC and BCC. The goal was to examine where communication could be improved in the College. A draft action plan for improving communication was prepared based on the workshops and is currently being reviewed by the FEC.

In the spirit of improving communication of BCC activities with the rest of the College, a BCC website has been launched on the College website: <http://www.cof.orst.edu/bcc/>

1c. The BCC will examine the current makeup of college and department committees. Do we need guidelines on committee formation in the college? Should committee membership be posted on the college website? A draft policy on committee makeup in the college was prepared by Tom Adams and Nick Som. This policy was incorporated in the draft communication plan discussed above and will be considered along with the rest of the plan by the FEC.

2. *Everyone recognizes harassment, knows what to do about it, and how to prevent it.*

We need to understand the policies with regard to harassment at the University level and decide whether these are sufficient for our needs. "Harassment" training could be part of a more comprehensive training effort on understanding and respecting diversity. The committee feels that this issue is a high priority concern to be addressed by the BCC in the coming academic year (2008-09).

3. *All members of the College community and guests will have appropriate physical access to buildings, classrooms, and all activities sponsored by or on behalf of the college.*

Mark Needham arranged for an assessment of handicap access in Peavy and RH. Based on this assessment, Roger Admiral prepared a plan of action. This plan needs to be reviewed by the BCC periodically (at least once per year) to evaluate whether it is being implemented in a timely manner.

4. *Build Community within and outside the college.*

4a. It was decided that the BCC needs to develop a recommendation on how open forums can be implemented on a regular basis (say once per year). One suggestion was that this task of identifying a suitable topic and organizing a forum be rotated among departments. We need to put more thought into this.

DAP Goal 5. *Increase racial/ethnic diversity of the student body to better reflect diversity present in the region.* The College is currently exploring a relationship with the Educational Opportunities Program as a means to more effectively recruit underrepresented students into the undergraduate student body. Tom will invite Ed Jensen, Clay Torset and Jim Kiser to the next BCC meeting to discuss this program.

DAP Goal 6. *Retain and increase racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of faculty, staff, and administration to better reflect diversity present in the region.* It was decided to invite Anne Gillies to a future BCC meeting to discuss means for improving success in recruiting minorities into the college.

DAP Goal 7. *Increase international opportunities and experiences for students, RAs, staff and faculty.* Recent cuts in the College's international program make achieving this goal a real challenge. Jim (Associate Dean for Extension and International Programs) described actions he is pursuing to enhance the international program in the College. He would like to reconstitute the college International Program Committee to provide a core group of interested faculty that would help to respond to opportunities for international involvement in the future. Depending on the success of developing this group, Jim will revise the current plan for international programs.

DAP Goal 8. *Actively cultivate understanding and appreciation of diversity through diversity training.* The committee needs to ask Terryl Ross, Director of Community and Diversity on campus, to meet with the BCC and discuss how this goal might be accomplished in the College.

DAP Goal 9. *Improve mentoring ability of all supervisors in the College, especially mentoring a diverse student and employee population by providing mentorship training.* The committee needs to investigate what kinds of mentoring training might be available on campus and explore how this goal could be implemented. A good person to discuss this with is Paul Biwan, Manager of Training and Development for the campus.

DAP Goal 10. *Develop or participate in a "Difference, power, and discrimination course.* The College has decided that two courses offered in CAS (AG 301, FW 340) meet our need for a DPD course based on a natural resource theme, so we will not be developing our own course.