

Council on Campus Planning and Usage (CCPU)
Friday, October 4, 2013
Chicago Room, University Union
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Scott Coker, Jeff Laurent (Chair), Eric Ribbens, Brian Stone, Bill Thompson

1. Introductions

New members to the committee, Brian Stone and Bill Thompson, were introduced.

2. Resignation

Eric Ribbens, the landscape liaison to the committee, tendered his resignation effective immediately. Eric has experienced mobility issues recently, and felt it best to resign.

Eric questioned whether CCPU still requires a landscape liaison. With WIU's designation as a Tree Campus USA, a tree policy board has been established. That board now handles many of the types of issues that used to be brought to CCPU regarding landscaping.

The Chair will inform the Faculty Senate of Eric's resignation and see what they would like to do.

3. Old Business

•Texting While Driving on Campus

Faculty Senate charged CCPU with providing guidance on the topic of texting while driving on campus. Although the CCPU met with Lt. Clark (OPS) on April 5, 2013, a summary and recommendation from that meeting were not provided to the Faculty Senate.

A brief summary of the discussion from April 5 was provided to committee members. Also, information about the law signed by the Governor (PA 098-0506) that bans the use of all hand-held devices while driving effective January 1, 2014 was shared. Additional suggests were made.

The Chair will draft a memo to the Faculty Senate summarizing the discussion held by CCPU with recommendations.

•Intentional Spaces

The Chair contacted Andrea Henderson (Office of Equal Opportunity and Access) as a follow-up to an initial contact made by last year's Chair. We were interested in knowing whether the lactation rooms on campus could potentially be used as intentional spaces. Andrea indicated that the lactation spaces could be multi-purpose spaces. She suggested that guidelines be established so that the space could be shared effectively.

Last year, possible intentional spaces were discussed in the context of a space survey that Facilities Management plans to conduct. In the meantime, the lactation rooms may provide an alternative to identifying spaces in each building.

4. Reports

- Landscaping

As noted above Eric Ribbens has resigned from the committee. The Faculty Senate will need to decide whether they would like to appoint a new person to act as liaison to CCPU.

- Facilities Management

Scott Coker provided an update on a number of projects on campus. The Thompson Hall project was completed over the summer and was ready for August move-in. The renovations to the University Union are meeting the established milestones. The Grand Entry on the northwest corner of US 67 and University Drive is progressing a little more slowly than hoped. The target is now the end of November, weather permitting. Over the summer, Facilities Management was able to reallocate money in order to do a number of quick, easy projects to improve the appearance of some interiors and exteriors on campus. There are a number of projects on hold pending funding. These include the Center for the Performing Arts, Wetzell Park, and demolition of Higgins Hall.

As noted earlier, Facilities Management is planning to survey space on campus. Specifically, they intend to audit classroom space and code all existing space on campus. There is some discussion about auditing the content of classroom space, also.

Facilities Management also will begin the process of redoing the capital request for a new science building. The previous request is more than 5 years old, and needs to be reconsidered given the growth of the nursing program among other things.

5. New Business

A discussion concerning building signs was initiated. It was noted that inconsistencies existed with respect to building signs on campus. For some buildings, the signs identifying buildings appear on one side of buildings, usually a street side of a building. Normally, this is considered the front of the building. However, most traffic is on the quad-side of buildings, where there may or may not be signs identifying the buildings. For example, Simpkins Hall and Malpass Library do not have signs on sides of the buildings where there is a lot of foot traffic. Although members of the campus community may be familiar with these buildings, the lack of signage on heavily trafficked sides of buildings might be inconvenient to visitors to campus (e.g., during football games, Discover Western, etc.). CCPU will explore this issue at a future meeting to see whether there is a university policy or standard with respect to building signage.