Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services
2008-2009 Annual Report
Submitted by W.J. Rorabaugh, Chair

During 2008-2009 the Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services (FCUFS) met twice per quarter and heard many presentations concerning buildings. UW’s plan to build 5000 student apartment and dorm units in the University District drew considerable attention, as did the proposed Molecular Engineering laboratory building to be built behind Johnson Hall. Lewis Hall pre-design was presented as part of the Restore the Core project, although funding was subsequently deleted from the Capital Budget for 2009-2011. There was also discussion of the Ethnic Cultural Center renovation or relocation, to be funded with ASUW funds, and the Longhouse project.

Transportation issues examined were the Sound Transit station access to the UW campus from Husky Stadium station; parking issues associated with the loss of parking (N-6) due to construction of the Longhouse; and the larger campus transportation issue, including the future of U-Pass and on-campus parking.

Environmental issues included a session on installing light timers in buildings as a way to save electricity, and a general discussion of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) proposal, although the draft document was not available to FCUFS at the time of the discussion.

FCUFS also heard a presentation on UW plans to contract with two vendors to provide better cell phone coverage across the campus and discussed whether there was a way to fund installing an elevator at the UW Club. FCUFS approved continued occupancy of a Health Sciences temporary trailer.

FCUFS also heard two presentations on the 2009-2011 Capital Budget.

Issues that are anticipated for FCUFS for 2009-2010 include a more formal discussion of the CAP, and a continued monitoring of transportation issues, possibly including the Sound Transit station and 520 exit ramps toward the UW. In addition, there may be a new overall campus transportation plan that will affect both mass transit and on-campus parking.

State-funded capital projects for 2009-2011 are limited to an auditorium in Tacoma, pre-design for a science building in Bothell, pre-design for Anderson Hall as a Restore the Core project, pre-design for the Longhouse, and minor works on the UW Seattle campus. However, there will still be quite a bit of construction. The U-District residence halls, to be funded by rent bonds, will be reviewed as more detailed plans emerge. Molecular Engineering is being built with UW internal funds. ASUW has approved funds for rebuilding the HUB, Hall Health, and the Ethnic Cultural Center. Husky Stadium might also reappear as an issue. Other possible issues include classroom shortages and emerging technology for remote access to courses.